



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN ECONOMIES

ANNUAL SUMMARY 2023-24



CONTENTS

ANNUAL SUMMARY 2023-24



36
Events



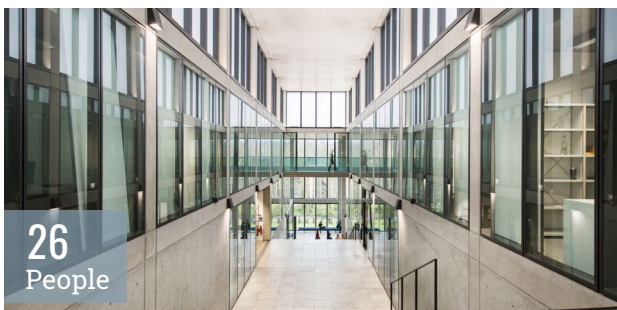
2
Research



24
Fellowships



18
Impact



26
People

- 6 Research Highlights
- 14 Publication Spotlights
- 18 Making an Impact
- 21 Economic Policy Network
- 22 Impact Spotlight
- 24 CSAE Visiting Fellowships
- 27 Staff
- 29 Students
- 30 Student Spotlights
- 33 Journal of African Economies
- 34 CSAE Working Papers
- 37 CSAE Conference
- 39 Seminars and Workshops

RESEARCH



Research survey being conducted in rural Bangladesh

RESEARCHING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

At the [Centre for the Study of African Economies \(CSAE\)](https://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/), we have been researching economic and social development in Africa since 1986. These days, our large team of development economists research not only countries in Africa, but also in other areas of the world.

CSAE PROJECT LOCATIONS



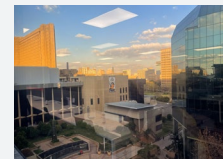
We have projects in 34 countries worldwide. You can search through our projects by country at <https://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/locations-landing-page>

RESEARCH AREAS

Our research falls into four key areas.



[FIRMS, FARMS AND LABOUR](#)



[MACROECONOMICS
AND GROWTH](#)



[POLITICS AND INSTITUTIONS](#)



[WELFARE AND BEHAVIOUR](#)

Find out more about our research work, listen to our research podcasts, and view all of our projects at www.csae.ox.ac.uk/research.

RESEARCH GROUPS



[Economic Research on Identity, Norms, and Narratives](#)

Economic activity takes place in a social context which structures and co-determines people's preferences, beliefs, and constraints.

The ERINN programme brings these processes to the forefront of economic analysis.



[Oxford Martin Programme on African Governance](#)

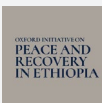
This programme looks at the current realities of economic, social, and political governance challenges for sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in terms of decision-making and implementation. It brings together researchers from six departments and several disciplines across the University of Oxford.



[Mind and Behaviour Research Group](#)

The MBRG brings together economists, psychiatrists, and psychologists based at the University of Oxford as part of the CSAE.

Their aim is to investigate the psychological impact of living in poverty and use findings to improve policy programmes.



[Oxford Initiative on Peace and Recovery in Ethiopia](#)

This initiative aims to shed light on the background of Ethiopia's internal conflicts, quantify the social, humanitarian, political, and economic implications, assess the scope for a lasting political and economic settlement and propose policy options for an inclusive and evidence-based recovery and reconstruction effort.

RESEARCH IN NUMBERS

34

countries we're working in

37

researchers at the CSAE

21

research projects ongoing

10

research podcasts episodes

You can search through all of our research projects by country on the CSAE website at <https://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/locations-landing-page>

PROJECT PORTFOLIO

[AI, Firms and Wages: Evidence from India](#)

[Can Temporary Financial Incentives for Female Industrial Workers Lead to Long-Term Retention and a Better Allocation of Talent?](#)

[Cost Effectiveness of Health and Education Interventions](#)

[Developing a Scalable Model for Personalised Adaptive Learning in Indian Public Schools Through A/B Testing](#)

[Female Rickshaw Driver Training in Pakistan](#)

[Financing Virtual Migration: Freelancing and Income Sharing in Bangladesh](#)

[Getting Online for Jobs: Reducing Information Frictions through Digital Technology in Public Employment Services](#)

[Improving Refugee Integration Through Public Works: Experimental Evidence At-Scale from Ethiopia](#)

[Equity-Like Financing for Women-Led Microenterprises: Experimental Evidence from India](#)

[Occupational Segregation and Gender Gaps in Nairobi](#)

[Oxford Martin Programme on Systemic Resilience](#)

[Research Initiatives on Poverty and Prosperity in Africa](#)

[Returns to International Labor Migration: Experimental Evidence from Ethiopia](#)

[Scientific Oversight of Multi-Country Experiment on Drought-Response Cash Transfers in the Sahel](#)

[From Farms to Jobs: Job Creation to Preserve Natural Ecosystems in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo](#)

[Tackling Psychological Barriers to Job Search and Employment in Kenya](#)

[The Implications of Internet Upgrades for Domestic Market Integration in Kenya](#)

[The Paradox of Search Frictions in Online Labour Markets](#)

[Shifting Management for Performance in the Ethiopian Civil Service](#)

[The Welfare and Incentive Effects of Job Displacement Insurance](#)

[Understanding the Benefits of the Digital Sector to Improve Matching between Firms and Jobseekers](#)

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



LAST MILE DELIVERY INCREASES COVID-19 VACCINE UPTAKE IN SIERRA LEONE

During the COVID-19 pandemic, less than 30% of people in Africa received a dose of the vaccine even 18 months after vaccine development. Residents of remote, rural areas of Sierra Leone faced severe difficulties with accessing the vaccine.

In the face of this challenge, the research team conducted an intervention with last-mile delivery of doses and health professionals able to deliver the vaccine to the most inaccessible areas. This was paired with community mobilisation.

Maarten Voors
Michael Rozelle
Ella Tyler
Sellu Kallon
Junisa Nabieu
(Wageningen University)
Madison Levine
(University of Illinois)
Vasudha Ramakrishna
(Boston University)

COLLABORATORS

Desmond Maada Kangbai
(Ministry of Health and
Sanitation, Sierra Leone)
Sarah Cundy
(Concern Worldwide)
Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak
(Yale University)

LOCATION

Sierra Leone



CSAE RESEARCHER

Niccolò F. Meriggi
(Economics)



ASSOCIATIONS



ABOUT THE PROJECT

In March 2022, in partnership with the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) and the international non-governmental organisation (NGO) Concern Worldwide, the research team, lead by Niccolò F. Meriggi, implemented a cluster randomised control trial with 20,000 Sierra Leoneans across 150 rural villages to deliver vaccine doses and nurses to administer vaccines.

Alongside the vaccines themselves, a social mobilisation team organised conversations with all village leaders (including town chiefs,

mammy queens, town elders, youth and religious leaders) to explain the purpose of the visit, answer questions, and encourage cooperation with vaccine uptake.

Social mobilisers asked leaders to convene community meetings to allow them to talk directly to village residents about vaccine efficacy and safety and the importance of getting vaccinated, ending in confirmation of the location and timing of mobile vaccination sites that were coming to the villages.

The vaccine doses, health staff and social mobilisers often travelled on motorbikes or on boats in order to traverse the difficult terrain required to reach the remote communities.

Vaccine sites were set up in central locations, within short walking distances of houses, and remained open from sunrise to sunset for two to three days. Nurses and registration staff were constantly available while social mobilisers entered the communities to provide information to residents about the process.





RESULTS

This intervention, which cost approximately 30 USD, 76% less than comparable models (approximately \$80), demonstrated a remarkable success. Within 48 to 72 hours, vaccination rates in the treatment group increased by 26%, with a sevenfold rise in vaccination counts.

By December 2022, Sierra Leone had achieved the World Health Organisation's global target to immunise 70% of its adult

population against COVID-19. In the villages included in the intervention, the average number of people vaccinated increased from nine people pre-intervention to 55 people within the two to three day vaccination pop-up clinic dates.

These results show that low vaccination rates are related to deficiencies in access and that a cost-effective intervention is capable of overcoming that deficiency.

IMPORTANT TAKEAWAYS FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

- 1 Many children die from preventable diseases that immunisations and other interventions could address. If made cost-effective, simple interventions like the one described could be used to increase access to healthcare and reduce mortality from preventable diseases in rural locations in West Africa and beyond.
- 2 By bundling multiple health interventions together, organisations could reduce the cost of delivery per person treated (given the high fixed transport costs of reaching remote communities).

This intervention saw a

	within	across
26%	48-72	150
increase in the immunisation rate	hours	communities

READ THE PAPER

[Last Mile Delivery Increases Vaccine Uptake in Sierra Leone](#)

Authors: Niccolò F. Meriggi, Maarten Voors, Madison Levine, Vasudha Ramakrishna, Desmond Maada Kangbai, Michael Rozelle, Ella Tyler, Sellu Kallon, Junisa Nabieu, Sarah Cundy, and Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak
Nature, Volume 627, March 2024, 101038

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



ANTICIPATORY CASH TRANSFERS IN CLIMATE DISASTER RESPONSE

This project examines the welfare impact of a one-off anticipatory cash transfer provided to households forecasted to experience extreme floods in Bangladesh.

It is the first large-scale evaluation that rigorously tests the impact of humanitarian cash transfers in response to a sudden climate shock, and the importance of being timely for an impactful response.

LOCATION
Bangladesh



CSAE RESEARCHERS

Stefan Dercon
(BSG and Economics)



Ashley Pople
(Economics and World Bank)



COLLABORATORS

Ben Brunckhorst
(World Bank)



Ruth Hill
(World Bank)



ASSOCIATIONS



ABOUT THE PROJECT

In 2020, Bangladesh experienced the second highest recorded floods since 1989. Flood waters halted agricultural production, disrupted food markets, schools, and health services, and damaged infrastructure.

By carrying out the fastest cash allocation in their history, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) were able to provide support to more than 220,000 people a few days prior to and during peak flooding.

Unlike previous years when response preparation started after flooding materialised, the WFP provided a small cash transfer of \$53 via mobile money to over 23,000 households a week in advance of peak flooding, based on flood predictions and an action plan that had been approved at the start of the monsoon season.

To assess impact, the research team compared households who received a cash transfer with otherwise

comparable households which did not receive the cash transfer.

10 to 12 weeks after the cash transfer, researchers randomly sampled and surveyed many households over the phone, with almost 9,000 households forming the sample of interest.

The survey data was complemented by satellite imagery to measure the flood intensity and timing at mauza level, the smallest administrative unit in Bangladesh.





RESULTS

The study found that cash transfers increased the actions available to households.

Cash receiving households changed their behaviour in ways that altered the trajectory of the flood impacts. They were able to evacuate household members and livestock and stock up on food, with an immediate and large

impact on food security during the floods.

The cash transfers did more than provide temporary relief during the flood. The effects were still present three months later, impacting both current and future welfare and mitigating asset loss and boosting earning potential.

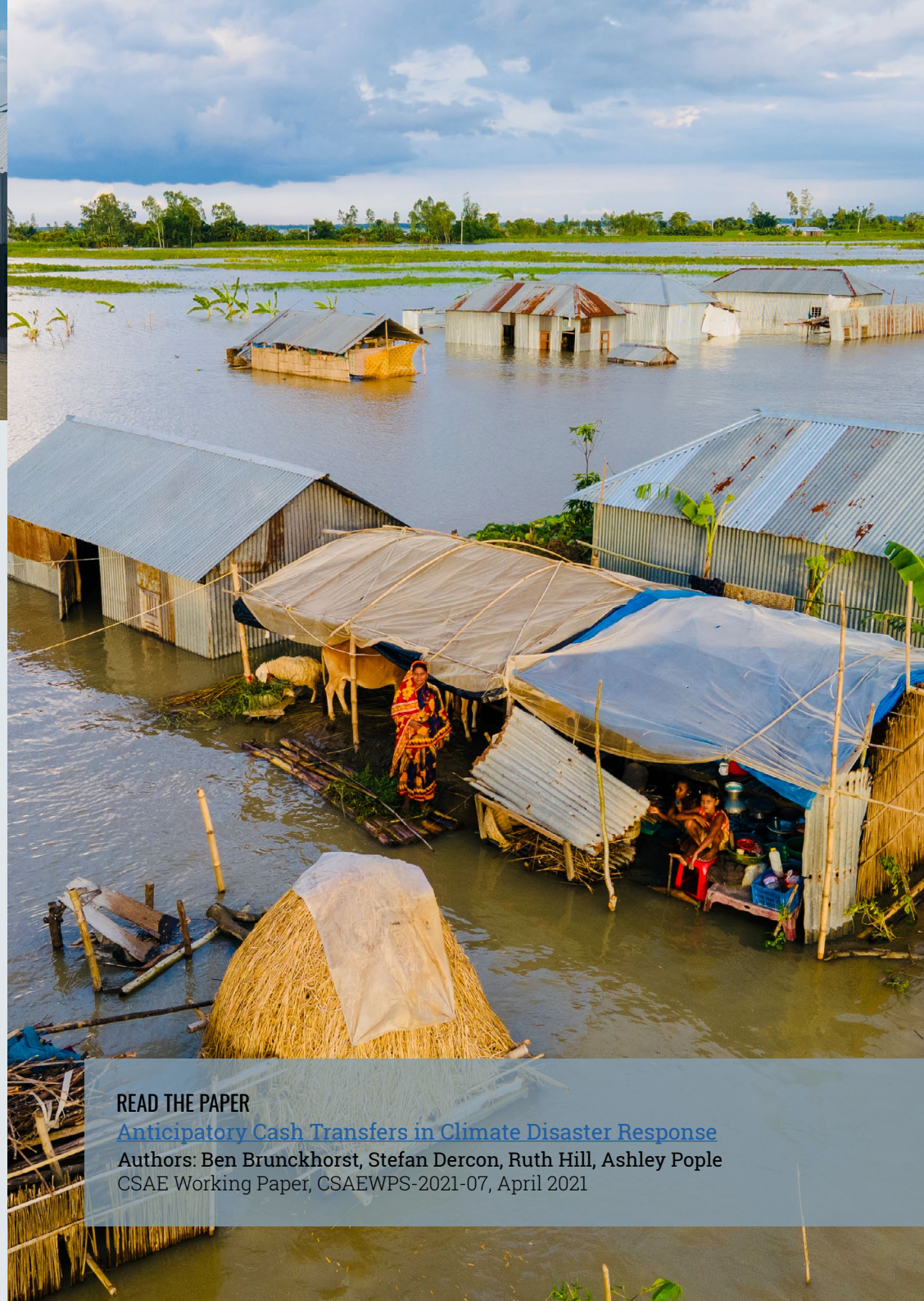
In cash receiving households

52% were less likely to go a day without food
18.7% had higher wellbeing
3.8% of children were more likely to have three meals a day

compared to households who did not receive cash

IMPORTANT TAKEAWAYS FOR CRISIS RESPONSE

- 1 Early action in a crisis makes a difference (failing to act has real welfare costs).
- 2 Even when acting early, speed of delivery matters. Households that were sent the cash one day earlier experienced a small improvement in adult food consumption three months later.
- 3 Much more learning on crisis response is needed.



READ THE PAPER

[Anticipatory Cash Transfers in Climate Disaster Response](#)

Authors: Ben Brunckhorst, Stefan Dercon, Ruth Hill, Ashley Pople
CSAE Working Paper, CSAEWPS-2021-07, April 2021

PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHTS

A selection of publications by CSAE researchers from 2022 to 2024.

[Loss-of-Learning and the Post-Covid Recovery in Low-Income Countries](#)

Authors: Christopher Adam, Edward F. Buffie, Kangni Kpodar and Luis-Felipe Zanna
Journal of Macroeconomics, Volume 75, March 2023, 103492

[Incentivizing Demand for Supply-Constrained Care: Institutional Birth in India](#)

Authors: Alison Andrew and Marcos Vera-Hernández
The Review of Economics and Statistics, Volume 106, January 2024, 101162

[Building Resilient Education Systems: Evidence from Large-Scale Randomised Trials in Five Countries](#)

Authors: Noam Angrist, Micheal Ainomugisha, Sai Pramod Bathena, Peter Bergman, Colin Crossley, Claire Cullen, Thato Letsomo, Moitshepi Matsheng, Rene Marlon Panti, Shwetlena Sabarwal and Tim Sullivan
National Bureau of Economic Research, WP31208, May 2023, 103386

[Cash Transfers and Micro-Enterprise Performance: Theory and Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Kenya](#)

Authors: Antonia Delius and Olivier Sterck
Journal of Development Economics, Volume 167, March 2024, 103232

[O-Ring Production Networks](#)

Authors: Banu Demir, Ana Cecilia Fielor, Daniel Yi Xu and Kelly Kaili Yang
Journal of Political Economy, Volume 132, November 2023, 101086

[The Future in Mind: Aspirations and Long-Term Outcomes in Rural Ethiopia](#)

Authors: Tanguy Bernard, Stefan Dercon, Kate Orkin, Giulio Schinaia and Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse
CEPR Discussion Paper, September 2023, DP18492

[Agricultural Productivity and Structural Transformation: Evidence and Questions for African Development](#)

Author: Douglas Gollin
Oxford Development Studies, Volume 51, November 2023, 101080

[General Equilibrium Effects of Cash Transfers: Experimental Evidence from Kenya](#)

Authors: Dennis Egger, Johannes Haushofer, Edward Miguel, Paul Niehaus and Michael Walker
Econometrica, Open Access, Volume 90, November 2022, 103982

FRISCH MEDAL AWARD 2024



In April 2024, Dennis Egger and his co-authors were awarded the Frisch Medal Award for the best applied (empirical or theoretical) paper published in Econometrica in any of the previous four calendar years.

They received this award for the paper 'General Equilibrium Effects of Cash Transfers: Experimental Evidence from Kenya'.

[Making Policies Matter: Voter Responses to Campaign Promises](#)

Authors: Cesi Cruz, Philip Keefer, Julien Labonne and Francesco Trebbi
The Economic Journal, Volume 134, July 2024, 101093

[Village Social Structure and Labour Market Performance: Evidence from the Philippines](#)

Authors: A. Stefano Caria and Julien Labonne
Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Volume 219, March 2024, 101016

[The New Economics of Industrial Policy](#)

Authors: Réka Juhász, Nathan J. Lane and Dani Rodrik
Annual Review of Economics, Forthcoming in Volume 16

[Customised Cash Transfers: Financial Lives and Cash-Flow Preferences in Rural Kenya](#)

Authors: Carolina Kansikas, Anandi Mani and Paul Niehaus
National Bureau of Economic Research, WP30930, February 2023, 103386

[Role Models and Revealed Gender-Specific Costs of STEM in an Extended Roy Model of Major Choice](#)

Authors: Marc Henry, Romuald Méango and Ismaël Mourifié
Journal of Econometrics, Volume 238, January 2024, 105571

[Asset-Based Microfinance for Microenterprises: Evidence from Pakistan](#)

Authors: Faisal Bari, Kashif Malik, Muhammad Meki and Simon Quinn
American Economic Review, Volume 114, February 2024, 101257

[Gendered Disparities during the COVID-19 Crisis in Sierra Leone](#)

Authors: Madison Levine, Niccolò F. Meriggi, Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak, Vasudha Ramakrishna, Maarten Voors and Uday Wadehra
American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings, Volume 113, May 2023, 101257

[Last Mile Delivery Increases Vaccine Uptake in Sierra Leone](#)

Authors: Niccolò F. Meriggi, Maarten Voors, Madison Levine, Vasudha Ramakrishna, Desmond Maada Kangbai, Michael Rozelle, Ella Tyler, Sellu Kallon, Junisa Nabieu, Sarah Cundy and Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak
Nature, Volume 627, March 2024, 101038

[Job Search and Hiring with Limited Information about Workseekers' Skills](#)

Authors: Eliana Carranza, Robert Garlick, Kate Orkin and Neil Rankin
American Economic Review, Volume 112, November 2022, 101257

[On Track or Not? Projecting the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index](#)

Authors: Sabina Alkire, Ricardo Nogales, Natalie Nairi Quinn and Nicolai Suppa
Journal of Development Economics, Volume 165, October 2023, 103150

[The Economic Lives of Refugees](#)

Authors: Alexander Betts, Maria Flinder Stierna, Naohiko Omata and Olivier Sterck
World Development, Volume 182, October 2024, 106693

[Information and Bargaining through Agents: Experimental Evidence from Mexico's Labour Courts](#)

Authors: Joyce Sadka, Enrique Seira and Christopher Woodruff
The Review of Economic Studies, Open Access, Forthcoming

[The Labour Market and Poverty Impacts of COVID-19 in South Africa](#)

Authors: Ihsaan Bassier, Joshua Budlender, Rocco Zizzamia and Ronak Jain
South African Journal of Economics, Open Access, Volume 91, September 2023, 101111



READ THE PAPER

[Asset-Based Microfinance for Microenterprises: Evidence from Pakistan](#)

Authors: Faisal Bari, Kashif Malik, Muhammad Meki and Simon Quinn
American Economic Review, Volume 114, February 2024, 101257

MAKING AN IMPACT



At the CSAE we aim to make a difference by providing impartial and impactful advice to policymakers and advisers in developing countries. We engage on an international level with organisations to challenge strategies on policy advice, build connections, and work with academic institutions in developing countries.

CONNECTING WITH INSTITUTIONS

We work with academic institutions on the African continent to host events and provide training for postgraduate students and academics.

As part of the annual CSAE Conference, we fund academics from Africa to join the Economic Development in Africa Workshop, held in Africa (hosted in a different country each year).

Staff and students from the host institution are also invited to attend the CSAE Conference in the UK.

At the workshop, speakers receive feedback on their work prior to presenting at the CSAE Conference in the UK.

Previous Economic Development in Africa Workshops.

- Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, 2023
- University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana, 2022
- Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2019



Ajapnwa Akamin presenting at the [Economic Development in Africa Workshop in Kampala 2023](#)

WORKING WITH NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

We partner with non-government organisations, such as J-PAL Africa and the World Bank to provide training to support academics in their research.



Above: Clare Hofmeyer, below: delegates at the [Economic Development in Africa Workshop in Kampala 2023](#)



ECONOMIC POLICY NETWORK

A partnership between the CSAE and the Blavatnik School of Government, the Economic Policy Network (EPN) provides impartial, context-specific, research-informed advice to help developing country policymakers and their advisers deliver on their economic and development mandates.

Based within the University of Oxford, we work in close partnership with local experts and global collaborators to assist policymakers in delivering on their economic and development priorities.

We respond to requests from government decision-makers and their senior advisors for support at critical junctures.

We provide timely, context-sensitive advice, grounded in research and evidence, and nested within local and global political and economic realities.

We take a "how to do" rather than "what to do" approach to enable change. We learn from our research and experience in many countries to strengthen the quality of economic policy-making and its politically informed implementation, respecting local circumstances.

While we do not have access to resources for implementing policy change, our work is pro-bono and independent of international organisations and donors. We value trusting relationships and mutual respect.

Find out more at <https://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/economic-policy-network>

IMPACT SPOTLIGHT

CASH TRANSFER GRANTS IN SOUTH AFRICA DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

CSAE research, lead by Kate Orkin, influenced the South African government on key policy decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic and made a real difference to public policy.

Influencing	helping	saving
£4.87 BILLION	28.5 MILLION	5.5 MILLION
in spending	people	from extreme poverty

In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, one in five South Africans were going to bed hungry. The country had implemented a strict lockdown, and millions of casual workers lost their jobs. The existing food parcel distribution system was overwhelmed, the economic crisis required an urgent policy response. Based on evidence from previous research on cash transfers in Kenya and working closely with research colleagues and civil servants in South Africa, CSAE researchers advised the South African government to shift their approach and give large unconditional cash transfers to households across the country. These policy changes continued after the pandemic keeping 2 million people out of severe poverty every month.

“The grants are currently keeping about two million people out of severe poverty every month. So it’s been a really big new policy shift. It’s the first grant for the unemployed in Africa, it’s been a really big extension of the social welfare system, and it’s really having quite remarkable effects on poverty.”

Kate Orkin, Associate Professor of Economic and Public Policy,
Blavatnik School of Government

“South Africa implemented one of the most rapid, far reaching and effective emergency cash transfer programmes in the world in response to the COVID-19 pandemic”

Saul Musker, Private Office of the President of South Africa

You can find out more about the work on policy partnerships with the Mind and Behaviour Research Group at <https://mbrg.bsg.ox.ac.uk/policy-partnerships>

ESRC OUTSTANDING PUBLIC POLICY IMPACT PRIZE 2023



In November 2023, the MBRG research team were awarded the Economic and Social Research Council (UK) Outstanding Public Policy Impact Prize for this work influencing public policy in South Africa.

Kate Orkin accepting the award at the ESRC ceremony in November 2023





Department of Economics, University of Oxford

CSAE VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

The [CSAE Visiting Fellowships scheme](#) supports a residency in Oxford from January to March, including flights, accommodation, and a small stipend. The scheme is open to African scholars with a doctorate in economics who are currently pursuing a career in economics. Applications are welcomed from citizens of all African countries.



Flights



Accommodation



Small stipend



Join the CSAE community



“I have particularly enjoyed the interactions with faculty and with graduate students, whether it’s during one-on-one meetings or during seminars. I’ve always left these interactions with greater insight into the ideas that were discussed and papers that I’m working on.”

Monica Lambon-Quayefio,
University of Ghana, CSAE Fellow 2024

VISITING FELLOWS IN 2023 AND 2024



[Monica Lambon-Quayefio](#)
University of Ghana



[Gebeyeu Manie Fetene](#)
Addis Ababa University



[Carolyn Chisadza](#)
University of Pretoria



[Tabitha Kiriti Nganga](#)
University of Nairobi



[Hiwot Mesfin](#)
Maastricht University

You can watch interviews with all of our 2023 and 2024 fellows via the CSAE YouTube channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/CSAEOxford>

Find out more about the scheme and view a list of our previous fellows on the CSAE website at <https://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/visiting-fellowships>



PEOPLE



FACULTY

Christopher Adam
Professor of Development
Economics (ODID)

Alison Andrew
Associate Professor in
Economics (Economics)

Noam Angrist
Academic Director, What
Works Hub for Global
Education, and Senior
Fellow (BSG)

Janine Aron
Senior Research Fellow
(OMS)

Banu Demir Pakel
Associate Professor in
Economics (Economics)

Dennis Egger
Associate Professor in
Economics (Economics)

Stefan Dercon
Professor of Economic
Policy (BSG and Econom-
ics) and CSAE Director

Douglas Gollin
Senior Research Fellow
(Economics)

Donna Harris
Director of Studies in
Political Economy
(Department of Continuing
Education)

Marya Hillesland
Research Officer in
International
Development (ODID)

Sanjay Jain
Senior Fellow in
Economics (Economics)

Vatsal Khandelwal
Junior Research Fellow
(Economics)

Pramila Krishnan
Professor of Development
Economics (ODID)

Julien Labonne
Associate Professor in
Economics and Public
Policy (BSG)

Nathaniel Lane
Associate Professor in
Economics (Economics)

Clare Leaver
Vice Dean for Academic
Affairs and Professor of
Economics and Public
Policy (BSG)

Amir Lebdioui
Associate Professor of
Political Economy of
Development (ODID)

Anandi Mani
Professor of Behavioural
Economics and Public
Policy (BSG)

Romauld Méango
Associate Professor in
Economics (Economics)

Muhammad Meki
Associate Professor
(ODID)

Pascal Mensah
Economic Policy Network
Coordinator (BSG)

Niccolò F. Meriggi
Postdoctoral Research
Fellow (Economics)

Christian Meyer
Director, Oxford Martin
Programme on the Future
of Development (OMS)

Niclas Moneke
Associate Professor in
Economics (Economics)

Jennifer Opore-Kumi
Postdoctoral Researcher
(BSG)

Kate Orkin
Associate Professor in
Economics and Public
Policy (BSG)

Natalie Nairi Quinn
Departmental Lecturer
and Tutorial Fellow in
Economics (Economics)

Olivier Sterck
Associate Professor and
Senior Research Officer
(ODID)

James Walsh
Postdoctoral Researcher
in Behavioural Economics
(BSG)

Martin Williams
Associate Professor in
Public Management (BSG)

Christopher Woodruff
Professor of Development
Economics (ODID)

Rocco Zizzamia
Postdoctoral Researcher
(Economics)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Shagnik Chakravarty
(ODID)

Abraham Raju
(BSG)

Prabhmeet Kaur Matta
(Economics)

Dylan Reich
(BSG)

Anasuya Narasimhan
(BSG)

VISITORS

Shyamal Chowdhury
(University of Sydney)

Daniel Maggio
(Cornell University)

Indranil Dutta
(University of Manchester)

Gebeyehu Manie Fetene
(Addis Ababa University)

Lukas Hensel
(Guanghua School of Management, Peking University)

Daniel Pérez-Parra
(Université Gustave Eiffel)

Monica Lambon-Quayefio
(University of Ghana)

Ashley Pople
(World Bank Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Unit)

Matt Lowe
(University of British Columbia)

Pallavi Prabhakar
(Norwegian School of Economics)

Pieter Serneels
(University of East Anglia)

Katherine Stapleton
(World Bank)

Verena Wiedemann
(International Finance Corporation)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Suzanne George
Publications

Ndabezinhle Masuku
Economic Policy Network Officer

Claire Goode
Events

Fiona Morsia
Communications

Paul Honey
Operations Manager

Rose Page
Executive Director

Susan Hyatt
Research Projects

DPHIL STUDENTS

Fandi Achmad
(ODID)

Antonia Delius
(Economics)

Joseph Levine
(Economics)

Aisha Ali
(BSG)

Diva Dhar
(BSG)

Priya Manwaring
(Economics)

Diala Al Masri
(ODID)

Giulio Gottardo
(Economics)

Max Marczinek
(Economics)

Inbar Amit
(Economics)

Michael Green
(Economics)

Karthik Narayan A.S
(Economics)

Jasmin Baier
(BSG)

Jacob Greenspon
(Economics)

Lisa Martin
(Economics)

Jordan Barnard
(ODID)

Kofi Gunu
(DPIR)

Anvita Ramachandran
(ODID)

Karoline Becker
(ODID)

Nadini Gupta
(BSG)

Manuel Ramos Maqueda
(BSG)

Xavier Black
(BSG)

Julia Hampton
(ODID)

Krittika Ray
(Economics)

Courtney Blair
(ODID)

Oliver Harman
(BSG)

Lovisa Reich
(Economics)

Lukas Boehnert
(Economics)

Aung Hein
(BSG)

Zahidul Sajid
(ODID)

Raphael Bradenbrink
(ODID)

Thierry Hounsa
(Economics)

Nan Sandi
(BSG)

Alice Cahill
(BSG)

Jordan Imahori
(Economics)

Nikolai Schaffner
(Economics)

Juliet Caucheteux
(Economics)

Archit Jain
(Economics)

Tom Schwantje
(Economics)

Gauri Chandra
(BSG)

Brynde Kreft
(BSG)

Sharada Srinivasan
(BSG)

Abelardo De Anda Casas
(Economics)

Eduard Krkoska
(Economics)

Amirah Kaca Sumarto
(BSG)

Julia Lawson-Johns
(Economics)

**Chantawit (Earth)
Tantasith**
(ODID)

Daniel Tate
(DPIR)

Hannah Timmis
(BSG)

John Walker
(Economics)

Yi (Hannah) Wei
(Economics)

**Hallelujah Lulie
Wondimu**
(DPIR)

Tianyi Wu
(BSG)

Dilan Yang
(Economics)

Wenzhang Zhang
(Economics)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS



ANTONIA DELIUS

DPhil Candidate, Department of Economics,
University of Oxford

Before starting the DPhil, I worked with the World Bank Kenya Office as well as the Oxford Refugee Studies Centre on several studies to better understand the socioeconomic situation of displaced communities and their hosts in East Africa, and to evaluate programmes

aiming to improve their livelihood opportunities. I completed the MPhil in Economics at the University of Oxford and received my BSc in Economics from Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich, Germany.

My research interests lie in development economics, with a focus on forced migration, labour markets, and cash transfer programmes. I am currently interested in how refugees can be better integrated in the economy, the role of mental health and social networks in determining labour market outcomes of marginalised groups, and how to design cash transfer programmes most effectively. In one of my ongoing projects in Kenya we are evaluating the impact of a cash transfer programme that is combined with a mental health training on the outcomes of camp-based refugees. In another recent project, together with Olivier Sterck, we studied the food market and entrepreneurship in a refugee camp in Kenya, specifically, how the design of a cash transfer programme shaped businesses and markets. The paper from this project 'Cash Transfers and Micro-Enterprise Performance: Theory and Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Kenya' was published in the Journal of Development Economics earlier this year.



HANNAH TIMMIS

DPhil Candidate, Blavatnik School of Government,
University of Oxford

Before joining the Blavatnik School, I spent several years working on research and programme delivery in low- and middle-income countries. My last role was Senior Research Manager at Precision Development (PxD), a non-profit organisation that builds and

researches digital services for rural households. I oversaw PxD's research projects in India, which ranged from large-scale field experiments to product innovation. Prior to that, I was a Research Associate at the Center for Global Development and the Institute of Development Studies and a Project Manager at Adam Smith International, where I oversaw aid programmes in Syria and Jordan.

My research interests were shaped by my work at PxD, where I observed the burden that weather and climate risk posed for rural households. My PhD focuses on how policymakers can better mitigate the effects of weather shocks on poor communities through improved social protection. I am particularly interested in questions related to the targeting of social assistance in dynamic settings - who should be eligible for support, how can they be identified prior to shocks being realised, and what are the welfare consequences of targeting errors?

CSAE DPHIL NETWORK

The CSAE DPhil Network brings together postdoctoral students with a shared interest in development economics from across the University of Oxford.

The Network includes:

- Social events;
- Work-in-progress sharing;
- Teams and WhatsApp groups;
- An internal website for information and document sharing.

CONTACT csae.communications@economics.ox.ac.uk

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL OF AFRICAN ECONOMIES

The [Journal of African Economies \(JAE\)](#) is a vehicle to carry rigorous economic analysis, focused entirely on Africa, for Africans and anyone interested in the continent - be they consultants, policymakers, academics, traders, financiers, development agents or aid workers.

The JAE is published by Oxford University Press (OUP), managed at the CSAE, and has an international network of Managing and Associate Editors and referees.

In 2023

44

articles published

419

articles submitted

The JAE sponsors the CSAE Visiting Fellowship and the CSAE Lunchtime Seminars series.

OUP offers academic, research and educational institutions within developing countries free (or greatly reduced) online access to JAE.

TOP FIVE VIEWED ARTICLES IN 2023

[Education in Africa: What are We Learning?](#)

David K Evans and Amina Mendez Acosta
Volume 30, Issue 01, January 2021, open access

[Increasing Tax Collection in African Countries: The Role of Information Technology](#)

Oyebola Okunogbe and Fabrizio Santoro
Volume 32, Issue 01, March 2023, open access

[Sources of Slow Growth in African Economies](#)

Jeffrey D. Sachs and Andrew M. Warner
Volume 06, Issue 03, October 1997

[Structural Change, Productivity Growth and Labour Market Turbulence in sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Emmanuel Mensah, Solomon Owusu, Neil Foster-McGregor and Adam Szirmai
Volume 32, Issue 03, June 2023, open access

[The Economic Impact of the Pandemic in Rwanda: An Analysis of Firm Level VAT Data](#)

Giulia Mascagni and Adrienne Lees
Volume 32, Issue 03, June 2023, open access

CSAE WORKING PAPERS

The CSAE Working Papers series publishes papers by CSAE members on a range of development economics topics.

PAPERS PUBLISHED IN 2023 AND 2024

[Cash Transfers and Migration: Theory and Evidence from a Randomised Controlled Trial](#)

Sterck O, Gazeaud J, Mvukiyehe E
January 2023

[Fallacy of Floating? Reconsidering the Ability of Flexible Exchange Rates to Offset Terms-of-Trade Volatility in Developing Countries](#)

Popescu IO
April 2023

[Building Resilient Education Systems: Evidence from Large-Scale Randomised Trials in Five Countries](#)

Angrist N, Ainomugisha M, Bathena SP, Bergman P, Crossley C, Cullen C, Letsomo T, Matsheng M, Panti RM, Sabarwal S, Sullivan T
May 2023

[Lighting the Path Forward? The Impact of Rural Road Construction on Structural Transformation in India: New Evidence from the PMGSY Scheme and Two Complementary Natural Experiments](#)

Kurian T
May 2023

[Does Human Capital Influence the Gender Gap in Earnings? Evidence from Four Developing Countries](#)

Perez-Alvarez M, Porter C, Ramachandran A
June 2023

[Public Disclosure and Tax Compliance: Evidence from Uganda](#)

Manwaring P, Regan T
August 2023

[The Direct and Indirect Economic Consequences of Climate Damage in Poor Countries](#)

Knight J
September 2023

[From Drought to Distress: Unpacking the Mental Health Effects of Water Scarcity](#)

Freund R
September 2023

[Optimal Sub-Saharan and European Trade Policy Response to the Use of the Food Weapon by Russia: Do Regional Taste Variations Count?](#)

Ouahioune Y
September 2023

[The Political Economy of Economic Policy Advice](#)

Dercon, S
October 2023

[The Future in Mind: Aspirations and Long-Term Outcomes in Rural Ethiopia](#)

Bernard T, Dercon S, Orkin S, Schinaia G, Seyoum Taffesse A
October 2023

[Jobseekers' Beliefs about Comparative Advantage and \(Mis\)Directed Search](#)

Kiss A, Garlick R, Orkin S, Hensel L
October 2023

[Aspiring to a Better Future: Can a Simple Psychological Intervention Reduce Poverty?](#)

Orkin S, Garlick R, Mahmud M, Sedlmayr R, Haushofer J, Dercon S
October 2023

[The Infrastructure Catalyst: Analysing the Impact of Development Finance Institutions on Private Infrastructure Financing in Developing Countries](#)

Mishra A
November 2023

[New Integrated Concepts and Measures of Income Poverty and of 'Common Prosperity' in China](#)

Knight J, Shi L, Haiyuan W
November 2023

[Weathering the Storm: Investigating the Role of Remittances as Immediate Disaster Relief in Developing Countries](#)

Deyal Z,
January 2024

[The Impact of Climate Change on Work Lessons for Developing Countries](#)

Feriga M, Lozano Gracia N, Serneels P
April 2024

[The Effects of Mental Health Interventions on Labour Market Outcomes in Low-And-Middle-Income Countries](#)

Lund C, Orkin K, Witte M, Walker J, Davies T, Haushofer J, Murray S, Bass J, Murray L, Tol W, Patel V
May 2024

EVENTS



CSAE CONFERENCE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

The CSAE Conference is a three-day event with a keynote, panels, and parallel sessions on a range of development economics topics in relation to Africa. Hosted in Oxford, UK, every year, the conference brings together colleagues from across the development economics community to discuss important issues on the continent.

The conference provides a platform for economists to share their research and act as discussants for one another to give useful feedback on how to improve their work.

“The CSAE Conference is one of the best conferences in development economics, particularly for those who are focusing on Africa, like myself. The topic coverage is quite diverse and it also has researchers who are at different levels which really allows spillover of knowledge and builds networks.

Eleni Yitbarek
University of Pretoria

FUNDING

The CSAE offers financial support for a group of African conference speakers to attend both the CSAE Conference in Oxford, UK, and the Economic Development in Africa Workshop hosted in a different country in Africa each year.

CSAE CONFERENCE 2024 IN NUMBERS

1122

paper submissions

418

participants

276

papers presented

75

sessions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA WORKSHOP

As part of the annual CSAE Conference, we fund academics from Africa to join the Economic Development in Africa Workshop, held in Africa (hosted in a different country each year). Staff and students from the host institution are invited to attend the Workshop and also the CSAE Conference in the UK.

At the workshop, speakers receive feedback on their work prior to presenting at the CSAE Conference and can attend additional trainings to strengthen their research.

“The workshop was wonderful at Makerere in Kampala. I presented and got useful feedback. What was most important were the side lectures on macro and micro economics, those sessions were very useful.

Atoko Kasongo
Human Science Research Council,
Cape Town

Below: delegates at the [Economic Development in Africa Workshop in Kampala 2023](#)



Oxford Department of International Development, University of Oxford

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS IN OXFORD

We run a termly programme of academic seminars and workshops at the Centre throughout the academic year.

CSAE RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

The CSAE Research Workshops are an opportunity for our DPhil students and junior academics to present their work to receive useful feedback to improve their paper and presentation.

CSAE LUNCHTIME SEMINARS

Open to everyone, the CSAE Lunchtime Seminars series runs once a week during term time and features renowned development economists from institutions around the world. The series is sponsored by the Journal of African Economies.

OXFORD DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS WORKSHOP

Organised in partnership with the Department of Economics at the University of Oxford, the Oxford Development Economics Workshop is an annual invitation only event for job market candidates in development economics to present their work ahead of the job market and receive useful feedback from faculty from institutions across Europe.

Find out more about our events at <https://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/events>



CONNECT

You can keep up to date with the CSAE and our activities via our mailing list and on social media.

Subscribe to our weekly news and events newsletter and receive information about opportunities at the Centre at

<https://csae.web.ox.ac.uk/contact-us>

You can follow us at:



[Twitter.com/Oxford_CSAE](https://twitter.com/Oxford_CSAE)



[LinkedIn.com/company/centre-for-the-study-of-african-economies](https://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-the-study-of-african-economies)



[YouTube.com/CSAEOxford](https://www.youtube.com/CSAEOxford)

Cover photo: Freetown, Sierra Leone,
by Michael Duff

Further photo credits: Alice Cahill, ESRC, David Fisher, Hufton + Crow, Makerere University, Muhammad Meki, Fiona Morsia, Chris Woodruff, WFP/Sayed Asif Mahmud, Rocco Zizzamia