

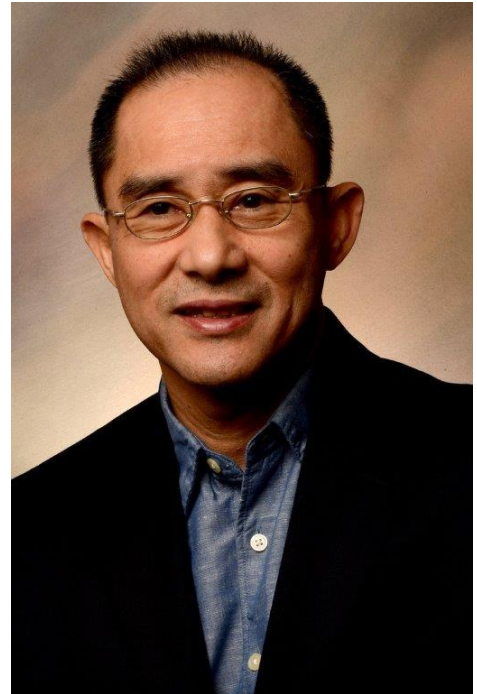
AAEA News

President-Elect Seeks Volunteers for AAEA Committees

Members interested in shaping the future of the AAEA can play an essential role by serving on an association committee. Committee service also offers an excellent opportunity for developing contacts and increasing professional networking.

Nayga will make appointments to the following 2023–2024 committees in June 2023:

- AAEA Trust
- Awards
- Case Study Invited Paper
- Communications
- Employment Services
- Fellows Selection
- Finance
- Galbraith Forum and Award
- Government Relations
- Membership
- Mentoring
- Nominating
- Selected Presentations
- T.W. Schultz Lecture



For information about these committees and a list of their current members, please visit <http://www.aea.org/about-aea/aea-committees>.

Any AAEA member interested and willing to serve on a committee should contact Kristen McGuire at kmcguire@aea.org or (414) 918–3190 by **May 3, 2023**.

Call for Applications

Travel Grants for Early Career Professionals and Graduate Students

The AAEA Trust seeks applications for Early Career Professional and Graduate Student Travel Grants. These grants defray housing and transportation costs associated with attending the 2023 AAEA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. from July 23–25. The amount of the travel grant awarded will depend on the number of applications received. AAEA Trust Travel Grants (if awarded) are generally not large enough to offset all travel and lodging costs, but are instead meant to supplement institutional support.

Eligibility Requirements: Qualifying applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements in order to be considered for a travel grant:

- Graduate student or Early Career Professional 2023 member of AAEE as of May 25th (application deadline).
- Actively engaged in agricultural or applied economics fields, such as agribusiness, agricultural, consumer, food, development, environmental, health, marketing, regional, rural, or resource economics.
- Insufficient institutional funding available to make the trip (including from university, department, grant, employer, etc.)
- Paper/poster/session accepted for presentation at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted through the [online application form](#). You will be asked to submit the following:

- Your name and e-mail address;
- Institution and (if applicable) department at which enrolled/employed. You may indicate “not-yet-employed” if not a current student and without employment – please highlight degree-awarding institution and date awarded:
- Degree program underway (*Graduate Student Applicants*)
- Anticipated graduation date (*Graduate Student Applicants*)
- Professional rank or position and years in that profession (*Early Career Professional Applicants*)
- Number of years at Institution (*Early Career Professional Applicants*)
- Brief summary of research interests (*1000 words or less*);
- Applicant statement (*500 words or less*): description of the anticipated value gained from attending and participating in the Annual Meeting (including paper/poster presentations, awards and/or pre-/post-conference workshops in which you will be involved);
- Proposed travel budget showing costs, funds available from institutional sources, and amount requested;
- A nomination from a department, division head, or supervisor which includes written acknowledgement of the nomination and certification of your financial need, including certification that funding is unavailable from other sources. Self-employed or not-yet-employed applicants may submit a letter supporting the nomination from a colleague or mentor from their degree-granting institution or include a letter stating financial need.

Applications should be submitted by the individual seeking support; however, only two applications from each employing institution will be considered. In the event that more than two applications are submitted from a specific department or division, it will be up to the department head to decide which will be considered, so it may be helpful to coordinate at that level. If an applicant is self-employed or not-yet-employed they may seek a letter of support from a colleague or mentor from their degree-awarding institution. Any letter of support for an Early Career Professional not employed or a student at a degree-awarding institution will not count against the maximum of two nominations from any department or other entity formally nominating other applicants.

Reflecting the Trust's goal of broadening participation in the Annual Meeting, preference may be given to individuals working under institutional circumstances not normally conducive to AAEA meeting attendance.

The deadline for submission is May 25, 2023. To apply, please visit

<https://aaea.execinc.com/edibo/TravelGrants2023App>

Call for Applications

AAEA Annual Meeting International Travel Grants

The AAEA Trust seeks applications for AAEA Annual Meeting International Travel Grants. These grants defray housing and transportation costs associated with attending the 2023 AAEA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. from July 23–25. The amount of the travel grant awarded will depend on the number of applications received. AAEA Trust Travel Grants (if awarded) are generally not large enough to offset all travel and lodging costs and will likely cover less than half of international travel costs.

Eligibility Requirements

Qualifying applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements in order to be considered for a travel grant:

- Resident of and residing in a country outside the United States/Canada.
- 2023 member of AAEA as of May 25, the deadline for this application.
- Actively engaged in agricultural or applied economics fields, such as, agribusiness, agricultural, consumer, food, development, environmental, health, marketing, regional, rural, or resource economics.
- Insufficient institutional funding available for the trip (including university, department, grant, employer, etc.)
- Paper/poster/session accepted for presentation at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted through the [online application form](#). You will be asked to submit the following:

- Your name and e-mail address;
- Institution and (if applicable) department at which enrolled/employed. You may indicate “not-yet-employed” if not a current student and without employment – please highlight degree-awarding institution and date awarded;
- Degree program underway (*Graduate Student Applicants*)
- Anticipated graduation date (*Graduate Student Applicants*)
- Professional rank or position and years in that position (*Early Career Professional Applicants*)
- Number of years at Institution (*Early Career Professional Applicants*)
- Brief summary of research interests (*1000 words or less*);
- Applicant statement (*500 words or less*): description of the anticipated value gained from attending and participating in the Annual Meeting (including paper/poster presentations, awards and/or pre-/post-conference workshops in which you will be involved);
- Proposed travel budget showing costs, funds available from institutional sources, and amount requested;

- A nomination from a department, division head, or supervisor which includes written acknowledgement of the nomination and certification of your financial need, including certification that funding is unavailable from other sources. Self-employed or not-yet-employed applicants may submit a letter supporting the nomination from a colleague or mentor from their degree-granting institution or include a letter stating financial need.

Applications should be submitted by the individual seeking support; however, only two applications from each employing institution will be considered. In the event that more than two applications are submitted from a specific department or division, it will be up to the department head to decide which will be considered, so coordinating with your department may be helpful. If an applicant is self-employed or not-yet-employed they may seek a letter of support from a colleague or mentor from their degree-awarding institution; note that such letters of support will not count against the maximum of two nominations from any department or other entity formally nominating other applicants.

Reflecting the Trust's goal of broadening participation in the Annual Meeting, preference may be given to individuals working under institutional circumstances not normally conducive to AAEA meeting attendance.

The deadline for submission is May 25, 2023. To apply, please visit:

<https://aaea.execinc.com/edibo/TravelGrants2023App>

Call for Applications

Editorship of the Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy

The AAEA Executive Board invites applications for one editor for Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy (AEPP) to serve from 2024 through 2026. This call for applications is for an editor to manage Submitted Articles which contain original research results addressing real-world problems with sound research approaches and/or have strong policy relevance within the subject matter of the journal. The degree to which candidate's expertise complements that of the continuing editors, will be considered in the selection process. The AAEA is particularly interested in candidates who will bring ideas and innovations for helping AEPP to further its mission.

Submitted articles will meet the normal standards for scholarly publication, but should also be accessible to the broader audience of agricultural and applied economists working outside academia. Submitted articles should emphasize one or more of the following: a) practical implications for public policy; b) clarification of research implications so as to maximize accessibility and cross-fertilization across specific areas of research; c) empirical comparison of competing theories, explanations, and approaches that can refine future research; and d) development of fruitful directions for future research. Additional information about the AEPP, its policies and mission is available at www.aaea.org/publications/aepp.

The editor will work with an editorial team comprised of another Submitted Articles Editor, and a Managing Editor to manage the manuscript review process. The Submitted Articles Editors are responsible for day-to-day issues relating to submitted articles, assisting with development of the Special Issues, and revising editorial policy. The AEPP editorial process employs electronic submission of manuscripts and interchange between editors and reviewers. An electronic system that tracks manuscripts through submission, review, and editorial decision is used by the editors for managing work flow. Authors can also query this system for e-mail

reports on the status in the editorial process of a submitted manuscript. The editors also oversee the work of Wiley in preparing copy for printing and reviewing proofs.

The new editor should be prepared to begin on January 1, 2024. There may be some training and coordination work starting around November 1. Applications should include a statement of editorial philosophy and ideas for furthering the journal's goals, an indication of the candidate's principal areas of expertise to support the AEPP's mission, a curriculum vitae, and a statement of administrative and financial support to be provided by the host institution. AAEA will provide financial assistance to defray some portion of the editor's time and most expenses. Applications should be sent electronically via PDF to Kristen McGuire, Executive Director, at kmcguire@aaea.org by **May 25, 2023**. Decisions will be made by the AAEA Board by August 2023. Third-party nominations of potentially interested candidates who can then be solicited for their materials are also welcome.

Call for submissions: AAEA invited paper sessions at the 2024 ASSA Annual Meeting

President-Elect Rudy Nayga is soliciting proposals and suggestions for AAEA invited paper sessions at the 2024 Allied Social Sciences Association (ASSA) Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX, January 5–7, 2024.

The objective of AAEA sessions at the ASSA Annual Meeting is to share new knowledge of interest to economists. The AAEA encourages sessions that will draw widely from ASSA attendees, including sessions jointly sponsored with other ASSA member associations.

A subcommittee of the AAEA Board will review all proposals. Preference will be given to proposals that

- 1) Cover issues of national and international importance,
- 2) Expand capabilities and tools for economic research,
- 3) Promise a high-quality collection of papers suitable for publication.

Papers in approved Invited Paper sessions are eligible to be peer reviewed for publication in the proceedings issue of the *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policies*. Authors will be contacted by the *AEPP* editors with manuscript submission details.

Proposed formats for the 2-hour sessions may include either three papers with one discussant or else four papers with no discussant. All proposals must include a plan for fostering participant interaction.

Proposals should include the session title and paper titles, as well as the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of the session organizer, moderator, paper presenters, and discussants. Proposal text should begin with a short justification of the session, followed by one paragraph abstracts describing the objective and contributions of each paper. The organizer is responsible for ensuring that all individuals identified in the proposal are willing to participate.

All speakers and discussants must be members of AAEA, although the proposal may request a membership waiver under special circumstances. Participants must register for the ASSA meeting.

Please send proposals by **May 24, 2023**, in Word or PDF format to Mary Annen at mannen@aaea.org.

Preview of AAEA 2023 Annual Meeting Workshops

Registration will open in March; registration is required for all workshops. *Additional details for each workshop coming soon.*

Pre-Conference Workshops**Saturday, July 22, 2023**

PC11 – BEER Section Craft Industry Tour

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

(Note: will depart prior to 1:00 pm)

Brief Description: The 2023 BEER pre-conference workshop is on Saturday July 22 from 1:00–5:00 pm. We will visit three craft breweries in Washington DC: Atlas, Other Half, and DC Brau. At each brewery, we will conduct Q&A with the brewer and/or owner while sampling flights of the beers. The focus of our conversations this year is understanding the impact COVID-19 had on craft breweries, the strategies each operation undertook during this challenging period, and the lessons learned during the lockdown and aftermath. We will be traveling from location to location via Uber vouchers.

PC12 – Numerical Methods in Agricultural Economics

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Marriott Marquis

Brief Description: The workshop will focus on practical applications of numerical methods to the formulation, solution, and analysis of stochastic dynamic optimization models. The workshop will introduce participants to the MATLAB CompEcon Toolbox developed to accompany “Applied Computational Economics and Finance”, a book by Mario J. Miranda and Paul W. Fackler.

PC13 – US Agricultural and environmental policy: opportunities and challenges

9:30 am – 4:30 am

Marriott Marquis

Brief Description: While economists recommend using market incentives, there is the widespread use of regulation to achieve agricultural and environmental resource management objectives. We propose to hold a workshop to explain this reality using multiple vantage points including, political economy, irreversibility, and supply chain perspectives. With these perspectives in mind, we will overview the policy choices of environmental and agricultural policies in the US, followed by a roundtable and a public discussion.

PC14 – Workshop on NIFA’s Agricultural Economics and Rural Communities Awarded Projects

8:45 am – 5:00 pm

Marriott Marquis

Brief Description of Topic: The workshop will involve presentations of completed and work in process of projects funded within the period of 2019–2020 by NIFA’s Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) competitive research programs in agricultural and resource economics. The four AFRI economics programs represented are: (1) the Economics, Markets, and Trade (EMT) and (2) the Environmental &

Natural Resource Economics (ENRE) programs; (3) Rural Economic Development; and (4) Social Implications for Emerging Technologies. Project directors whose projects are completed or near-completed will present papers outlining their research endeavors and findings. Projects that are in early stages will present posters outline their project objectives, methods, and anticipated results.

PC15 – Understanding and utilizing USDA’s Economic Research Service trade data

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Marriott Marquis

Brief Description: The objective of the workshop is to provide an overview of the trade data generated by USDA’s Economic Research Service (ERS). This includes, but not limited to, the Foreign Agricultural Trade of the U.S. data, State Trade Data, and Agricultural Trade Multipliers.

PC16 – Conferencing Like a Pro: Strategies for a Successful Conference Experience

4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Marriott Marquis

Registration Fee: \$20

\$200 stipend available for graduate students and early career professionals

Program: This workshop aims to provide guidance for new AAEA members and young scholars on productive conference participation and integration into the research community. It will allow junior scholars to learn “tips and tricks” for attending conferences from scholars of different career stages and with different backgrounds, ask relevant questions, connect with their peers, learn more about resources available at the AAEA, and introduce themselves to more experienced colleagues in an informal, welcoming setting. The workshop will also provide an opportunity for more proficient AAEA members to meet new colleagues and exchange ideas for future collaborations.

Post-Conference Workshops

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

PC51 – Extension Section Agricultural Tour

Additional details coming soon

PC52 – Publishing Applied Economic Research on Health and Nutrition

7:30 am – 5:00 pm

Marriott Marquis

Brief Description: Workshop’s attendees will have the opportunity of hearing the perspectives of the editors of leading agricultural economics journals on what constitutes an article in health and nutrition that clears the bar for publication. This workshop is particularly beneficial to early career researchers navigating the tenure and promotion process. Although there is a growing number of applied economic research in interdisciplinary journals, how these publications are perceived during the tenure process in agricultural economics departments appears to be an idiosyncratic process. This workshop invites speakers who serve as department Chairs to share their views on how to best balance research outputs. Additionally, a panel of agricultural economists who have successfully published their research

in both economics and non-economics journals, will share their experience on what factors have affected their publication strategy, and how publishing in non-economic journals has impacted their research trajectory. The last panel will ask researchers from government agencies to evaluate how interdisciplinary research is used for policy making.

PC53 – Bayesian Econometrics and Machine Learning

7:30 am – 5:00 pm

Marriott Marquis

Description: The Bayesian paradigm provides a natural and practical way for building complex analytical models by expressing the joint model as a sequence of simpler conditional models. This course will first introduce general notions of Bayesian inference and computational methods and then expand to more complex models that have recently emerged as a result of the current literature in machine learning. Models will be illustrated through practical applications to various real case studies in applied economics avoiding much of the theoretical underpinnings. Participants with basic knowledge of statistical and econometric inferential frameworks will find the course useful in expanding their toolkit. Popular topics in agricultural and applied economics such as generalized linear models, discrete choice models, and latent variable models will be covered along with Bayesian machine learning (BML) methods, which naturally incorporates regularization using specific choices of prior distributions. One major advantage of BML is that it can readily handle data irregularities (e.g., missing or censored values) using posterior predictive distributions. The concepts and methods discussed will be demonstrated using R, but can be carried out using other statistical software. Lecture materials, references, data sets, and example code will be distributed electronically to workshop participants.

Announcing the 2023 Extension Competition for Graduate Students 2023 AAEA Annual Meeting

The AAEA Extension Competition for Graduate Students provides an opportunity to develop and/or get feedback on programs that communicate research and practical information to Extension (usually non-economist) audiences. Entries can be based upon graduate student research for a thesis, dissertation, or other academic work. The competition is sponsored by the Extension and Graduate Student Sections.

Note: This year, we will once again work with applicants who cannot or do not wish to attend the conference in person. The details below refer to our current plan and may change.

Who's Eligible?

Graduate students currently engaged in topics related to agricultural economics, agribusiness, natural resources, and community resource economics as well as those who graduated from such programs in Spring 2023 or later.

Participants must identify and work with a mentor with experience in outreach or extension activities.

The Application:

Applications should be addressed to Curtis Mahnken at cmahnken@umn.edu and must include:

1. Student's name, university, department, address and contact information.

2. Title of the extension program to be delivered.
3. A summary of the proposed extension program. This should include project outcomes, target audience, delivery plans, communication methods and activities planned for distributing the information to the public such as fact sheets, reports, web sites, spreadsheets, and presentations (4 page maximum). If the applicant was part of a team, the role of the applicant within the team must be made clear. If the proposed project is building upon the success of other extension programs, the summary should include a description of the previous program and the innovative approach of this proposed project.
4. An educational popular press article limited to 500 words and no more than two graphics (tables, charts, etc.). This should be an addendum to your submission packet. Examples include:
<https://farmdocdaily.illinois.edu/2023/01/us-price-inflation-focus-on-farm-prices.html> and
<https://southernagtoday.org>
5. A detailed evaluation plan. This should be an addendum to your submission packet. You may choose to develop your project using a logic model (which is not required). You can see more information on logic models below.*
6. A profile of the applicant's background and research (1 page maximum).
7. The mentor's name and description of the mentor's role in the project.

Finalists at AAEA

Finalists will be selected to make a 15-minute presentation at the AAEA meeting either virtually or in Washington, D.C. on Sunday July 23, 2023, to a panel of judges, who will then ask 5 minutes of questions. The competition will begin at 8AM EDT. Selection of the finalists will be based on the material submitted and the criteria listed above. Finalists will be notified by June 5, 2023. The top three finalists are expected to make presentations during an AAEA Extension track organized symposium if present in Washington DC or virtually. Date and time are to be determined (likely Tuesday, July 25).

Awards Cash awards will be given to those judged to be the top three graduate students in this competition. Award funding is provided by the AAEA Extension Section through membership dues and via support provided by sponsors. Awards are:

- First Place: \$1,000 and a plaque
- Second Place: \$300 and a certificate
- Third Place: \$200 and a certificate
- Other finalists receive finalist certificates.

The top 3 competitors selected will be recognized at the AAEA Awards ceremony on the evening of July 24. All finalists will be provided tickets to the Extension Luncheon on July 24 during the AAEA annual meetings.

Submission Deadline: Midnight CDT on Friday, **May 12, 2023**. Email entries to Curtis Mahnken, Competition Committee Chair at cmahnken@umn.edu. Finalists will be notified by June 5, 2023.

*Logic models, often linked with program evaluation, can also be useful for planning a program. You can find many examples of logic models online, including:

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/programdevelopment/logic-models/bibliography/>

https://www.cdc.gov/tb/programs/evaluation/Logic_Model.html

<https://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/cis/cis1097.pdf>

Government Relations & Washington Update

March 2023

President Biden Releases FY 24 Budget

On March 9th, President Biden released his [budget proposal](#) for fiscal year 2024. The [2024 request for USDA](#) includes funding of \$32.6 billion for the department, which is \$4.7 billion over 2023. This represents a proposed increase of 16.9 percent. The Research, Education and Economics Mission Area, comprised of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Economic Research Service (ERS), National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), would receive a total of \$4 billion under the President's budget. ARS is slated for \$1.9 billion to support ARS research, including increases of \$83 million for clean energy, \$88.5 million for climate science, \$20 million in support of the Cancer Moonshot, \$10 million for Climate Hubs and Climate Hub Fellows, and \$6 million for additional high priority investments. The budget includes \$151 million for livestock production research, up from \$148 million in FY 2023 and \$162 million for livestock protection, up from \$153 million last year.

For ERS, the budget includes \$98 million in program funding, which represents an increase of \$5 million over FY 2023. The total includes over \$8 million for climate initiatives and \$285,000 to support minority serving institutions. Among the climate initiatives is \$2.2 million for a study of irrigation.

NASS is proposed to receive \$241 million in program funding, up from \$211 million last year. The total includes \$8 million to help measure climate science research. The Budget includes a \$12 million increase within the Census of Agriculture account to support a total of \$25 million for modernization efforts to improve customer service, improve access to data, and modernize IT infrastructure.

The President's budget includes \$1.9 billion for NIFA. The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) is proposed to receive \$550 million, a \$95 million increase from FY 2023. This represents the largest programmatic increase requested in the NIFA budget. Support for capacity programs Hatch and Smith Lever are proposed to receive the same amount as last year at \$265 million and \$325 million, respectively. The budget includes \$370 million to support Minority Serving Institutions across a variety of programs. The budget requests \$10 million for the Research Facilities Act, which received its first ever appropriation of \$2 million in FY 2023.

Congress will now begin the appropriations process for FY 2024. The House and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee are expected to hold hearings in the near future.

Senate Agriculture Committee Holds Hearing with Secretary Vilsack

On March 16th, the Senate Agriculture Committee held an oversight hearing examining the Department of Agriculture. [Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack](#) testified on the Department of Agriculture (USDA) operations and recommendations for the 2023 Farm Bill. Find his testimony [HERE](#). Secretary Vilsack's testimony included a section highlighting the importance of agricultural research. He stated that federal investment in public research and development (R&D) in agriculture is foundational to ensuring the United States maintains its role as a global leader in agricultural competitiveness. He also discussed the recent decline in federal investments in research and how China has accelerated its funding of agricultural research. Vilsack noted that the Farm Bill represents an important opportunity to help shape research programs and policies. Nutrition policy was a major topic of discussion during the hearing, with Republicans pressing for reforms and spending reductions

and Democrats defending recent changes that have greatly increased the cost of nutrition programs. How the farm bill and other government programs should support various sizes of farms was also the subject of much discussion. Other topics included urban farming, broadband access, data-driven precision agriculture, and foreign ownership of agricultural land.

Other News

Distributional Impacts of Climate Change in the Agricultural Sector

Chicago, IL – November 16–17, 2023

Climate change affects all aspects of the agricultural sector, from technology and input choices, to the wages and welfare of workers, to the prices consumers pay for food and agricultural products. To promote research on the distributional impacts of climate change, the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), with the generous support of the Economic Research Service at the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), will convene a research conference in Chicago on November 16–17, 2023. The conference will be organized by Ellen Bruno and Meredith Fowlie of the University of California, Berkeley, and Danae Hernandez-Cortes of Arizona State University.

Research submissions that explore the distributional implications of climate change in an agricultural context are encouraged. Potential topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Assessments of how climate change and extreme weather events have affected agricultural production, food prices, and the distribution of consumer welfare for households in different income, racial, ethnic, and other groups.
- Spatial analysis of the impacts of climate change on farm incomes, environmental outcomes, crop choice, and agricultural investments.
- Development of metrics to assess the distributional impacts of climate change on incomes and livelihoods in the agricultural sector over time.
- Analysis of how shifting climate conditions, and potential policy responses to these conditions, could affect agricultural workers.
- Evaluation of how the farm-to-table supply chain could be affected by climate change, with particular attention to impacts on consumer prices, the availability of products, and food security for marginalized communities.
- The potential effects of climate-related agricultural policy alternatives, such as crop insurance programs, and incentives targeting adaptation strategies.
- The efficacy of social insurance programs, such as SNAP, in reducing the impact of climate change on low-income households.

The organizers welcome submissions of both empirical and theoretical research, including papers by scholars who are early in their careers, who are not NBER affiliates, and who are from groups that are under-represented in the economics profession. The program will prioritize research on the U.S. agricultural sector and economy. To be considered for inclusion on the program, papers must be uploaded by midnight (EDT) on **Thursday, June 15, 2023** via the following link: <http://conference.nber.org/confsubmit/backend/cfp?id=AEf23>

Complete papers are preferred, but extended abstracts may also be submitted. Please do not submit papers that have been accepted for publication and that will be published by November 2023. Authors chosen to

present papers will be notified in early July. A virtual pre-conference meeting will be convened in August 2023. The organizers will consider publishing the papers presented at this meeting in an edited NBER proceedings volume, or in a special issue of a refereed journal, subject to the interest of the paper

Questions about this conference may be addressed to confer@nber.org.

Water Economics and Policy Journal: Call for Papers for a Special Issue

Special Issue on Economic Impact of Climate Change on the Water Sector in MENA and Northern Mediterranean Countries

Guest Editor:

Slim Zekri (Sultan Qaboos University, Oman)

Email: Slim@squ.edu.om

Climate change in MENA countries as well as Northern Mediterranean countries (Portugal, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Greece, and Southern France) has already made an evident impact affecting rain-fed agriculture as well as surface water reservoirs, aquifers' natural recharge and cities. Crop varieties and tree species currently under cultivation in the Southern Mediterranean would progressively be appropriate in the North Mediterranean farming systems for adaptation. Rain is becoming more sporadic and more intensive with fewer number of rainy days, higher temperatures, and longer summer months, leading to crop area shrinkage and increased need for water desalination. Hence, the increased water scarcity is affecting all the economic sectors (agriculture, water utilities, industry, tourism, and the environment) and driving a higher demand for water, including for adaptation purposes. Domestic urban and rural water are under increased stress/variability and water service failures/interruptions are becoming more frequent causing social discontent. Although quantitative technical-physical climate impacts are quite abundant, the lack of economic value tags attached to such studies makes them less valuable for policy consideration and undertaking the necessary shifts and adaptations. Previous economic impact studies based their adaptation measures on deficit irrigation for instance, however data is showing that aquifers are under high stress and cannot be used for such a purpose. Similarly, surface water reservoirs' storage capacity is negatively affected by siltation caused by the more torrential sporadic intensive rains reducing the supply of water and increasing the supply uncertainty. This special issue of Water Economics and Policy aims to bridge this gap.

Potential topics/issues include, but are not limited to:

- Assessing the economic losses caused by extreme events (droughts; floods; extreme temperatures) on water for cities and agriculture;
- Economic impact of climate change on rain-fed and irrigated agriculture and adaptation measures;
- Economic impact of climate change on dams' storage capacity based on observations (during the period 1990-2022). Dams' siltation and water value taking into account rain intensity and periodicity;
- Adaptation measures and investments in the water sector as a response to climate change;
- Impacts of climate change on water policies and institutions;
- MENA and Northern Mediterranean countries' policy adaptation measures and investments undertaken in the past 20 years in the water/agricultural sectors;
- Case studies of successful adaptation strategies in the water sector;
- International programs and international aid and their effect on water sector adaptation to climate change on the MENA region;

- Assessment of the European programs oriented toward water sector climate adaptation for Northern and Southern Mediterranean countries; and
- Investments in R&D for water climate adaptation.

Timeline and submissions

Manuscript submission deadline (via Editorial Manager): **July 31, 2023**.

All submitted papers are expected to fully comply with Water Economics and Policy journal standards and are subject to regular review procedures. Papers should not have been published previously in any other journal (print or electronic format). All submissions should follow the journal's Submission Guidelines found here: <https://www.worldscientific.com/page/wep/submission-guidelines>.

About the Guest Editor

Dr Slim Zekri is Professor in the Dept. Nat. Res. Econ. at Sultan Qaboos University. He earned his PhD in Ag. Econ. and Quantitative Methods from the University of Cordoba, Spain. His main research interests are in Water Economics & Policy; Agricultural Economics and Environmental Economics. In 2017 he won the Research and Innovation Award in Water Science from the Sultan Qaboos Higher Center for Culture & Science. He is Associate Editor of the journal of Water Economics and Policy. He worked as a consultant for a range of national and international agencies. He is member of the Scientific Advisory Group of the FAO's Globally Interesting Agricultural Heritage Systems since 2018. In 2020 he edited a book titled Water Policy in MENA Countries published by Springer.

<https://www.worldscientific.com/page/wep/callforpapers08>

Special Issue in Food Policy: Transforming Global Agri-Food Value Chains

This special issue of Food Policy invites research papers that contribute to our understanding of the complex relationships between agri-food value chains, trade, domestic and international policies, and global value chains (GVCs). Recent socioeconomic and political events (e.g., COVID-19, Russia-Ukraine War) challenge conventional wisdom regarding the structure and importance of agri-food GVCs, raising the need for new research. The transformation of agri-food GVCs is necessary for addressing some of the global challenges identified in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We encourage studies that address various aspects of the issues facing agri-food GVCs and their impact on various socioeconomic outcomes, such as food safety, consumer nutrition and health, employment and wages, and technology spillovers. We welcome submissions based on diverse approaches and methods (e.g., empirical and qualitative analyses, simulation models, case studies, and systematic reviews). We welcome submissions from various relevant disciplines, including applied economics, food systems science, transportation sciences, and other sciences, provided the studies are accessible to scientists from different disciplines.

Guest editors:



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1. What are the Implications of recent economic and political events for the future of agri-food GVCs?
2. What are the implications of changes in agri-food GVCs for food safety, consumer nutrition and health, global markets and trade, employment and wages, and technology spillovers?
3. How can agricultural and food policies affect the sustainability and efficiency of agri-food GVCs?
4. What are the welfare consequences of domestic and foreign agri-food policies across agri-food GVCs and between developed and developing economies?

Manuscript submission information:

The [Food Policy's submission system](#) will be open for submissions to our Special Issue from February 7, 2023. When submitting your manuscript please select the article type "VSI: Transforming Global Ag-Food VC". Please submit your manuscript before **June 30, 2023**.

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Inquiries, including questions about appropriate topics, may be sent electronically to Dr. Titus Awokuse <awokuset@msu.edu>

Keywords:

Agri-food value chains, food safety, food security, international trade, domestic and international policies, consumer nutrition and health, COVID-19

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