

MARIA PORTER

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

2022-Present Assistant Professor (tenure-eligible)
Department of Political Economy and Moral Science, University of Arizona

PRIOR EMPLOYMENT

2020-2022 Assistant Professor-Career Track,
Department of Political Economy and Moral Science, University of Arizona
2013-2020 Assistant Professor of International Development,
Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University
2009-2013 Research Fellow, University of Oxford
2007-2009 Postdoctoral Fellow, Center on Aging, NORC at the University of Chicago

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Chicago, June 2007
M.A. Economics, University of Chicago, August 2003
B.A. Mathematical Economics and International Relations, Brown University, 1999

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Household Economics, Applied Microeconomics,
Development Economics, Agricultural Economics

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Maredia, M., Nakasone, E., Porter, M., Nordhagen, S., Caputo, V., Djimeu, E.W., Jones, A., Mbuya, M.N.N., Ortega, D., Toure, D., and Tschirley, D. 2024. "Using novel multi-method evaluation approaches to understand complex food system interventions: Insights from a supply chain intervention intended to improve nutrition." *Current Developments in Nutrition* 8(6): 103776.

Nakasone, E., Porter, M., Jones, A., Maredia, M., and Tschirley, D. 2024. "A mixed methods assessment of technical and financial assistance to small- and medium-sized enterprises in Kenya's food sector." *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy* 46(2): 435-455.

Maredia, M., Porter, M., Caputo, V., Nakasone, E., and Ortega, D. 2024. "Does increasing the availability of a nutritious food produced by a small- and medium-sized enterprise increase its consumption? Evidence from a field experiment in Kenya." *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy* 46(2): 414-434. [Maredia and Porter equally share the senior authorship]

- Caputo, V., Kaminski, D., and Porter, M. 2023. "Dairy workers' preferences for compensatory benefits: A field experiment with U.S. immigrants and students." *Journal of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association* 2(2): 198–214.
- Farris, J., Porter, M., Jin, S., and Maredia, M. 2023. "Growing Pains: Season-Specific In-Utero Rainfall Shocks Impact Child Growth in Rural Rwanda." *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 71(2): 793-818. [Farris is 1st author, Porter is 2nd author, Jin and Maredia are equal 3rd authors]
- Kassas, B., Palma, M., and Porter, M. 2022. "Happy to Take Some Risk: Estimating the Effect of Induced Emotions on Risk Preferences." *Journal of Economic Psychology* 91.
- Wang, Y., Porter, M. and Jin, S. 2020. "The impact of health insurance on healthcare service use and costs: evidence from rural China." *China Agricultural Economic Review* 13(2):418-435. <https://doi.org/10.1108/CAER-06-2020-0148>. [Porter is corresponding author and 2nd author]
- Porter, M. 2017. "Spousal Bargaining Over Care for Elderly Parents in China: Imbalances in Sex Ratios Influence the Allocation of Support." *Journal of Development Studies* 53(4): 514-529.
- Porter, M. and A. Adams. 2016. "For Love or Reward? Characterising Preferences for Giving to Parents in an Experimental Laboratory Setting." *Economic Journal* 126 (598): 2424-2445. Media coverage: "Children's gifts to parents motivated by selfishness, economists claim" <http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2015/dec/13/presents-parents-selfishness-economists-altruism> [Porter is 1st author and corresponding author]
- Porter, M. 2016. "Effects of Microcredit and Other Loans on Female Empowerment in Bangladesh: The Borrower's Gender Influences Intra-Household Resource Allocation." *Agricultural Economics* 47: 235-245.
- Porter, M. 2016. "How Do Sex Ratios in China Influence Marriage Decisions and Intra-Household Resource Allocation?" *Review of Economics of the Household*, 14(2): 337-371.

WORKING PAPERS (drafts available upon request)

- Basis Risk, Social Comparison, Perceptions of Fairness and Demand for Insurance: A Field Experiment in Ethiopia (with Berber Kramer and Solomon Bizuayehu Wassie). Invited to Revise and Resubmit
- Trust, Risk, and Institutions: Experimental Evidence from a Community of Firms in Kenya (with Ahmed Salim Nuhu, Eduardo Nakasone, and Mywish Maredia). Invited to Revise and Resubmit
- Are Preferred Sons "Rotten"? Giving to One's Parents in the Lab in China (with Dandan Zhang and Xiaobo Zhang)
- How Do Nuclear and Extended-Family Households Differ in Labor Allocation Decisions due to Agricultural Technology Adoption? Evidence from Burkina Faso (with Aissatou Ouedraogo and Andrew Dillon). <https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/record/236123>.

How to Increase Adoption of Biofortified Crops and Improve Women's Nutrition Outcomes at Scale: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial in Rwanda (with Jarrad Farris, Songqing Jin, and Mywish Maredia).

Reconsidering the Evidence on Market Completeness in Agricultural Settings (with Jarrad Farris, Songqing Jin, and Mywish Maredia)

Social Network Targeting of Agricultural Technology: Adoption, Input Substitution and Yield Effects (with Andrew Dillon and Aissatou Ouedraogo).
<https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/record/274179>.

Who is the Fairest of All Children? The Heterogeneity of Giving to Parents in an Experimental Setting

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Impact Evaluation of Scaling Up Sweetpotato Through Agriculture and Improved Nutrition (SUSTAIN) Project in Rwanda: End line Report, 2018 (with Jarrad Farris, Songqing Jin, and Mywish Maredia)

Impact Evaluation of Scaling Up Sweetpotato Through Agriculture and Improved Nutrition (SUSTAIN) Project in Rwanda: Baseline Report, 2015 (with Jarrad Farris, Songqing Jin, Mywish Maredia, and Caroline Peters)

Porter, M. 2010. "Health, Longevity, and the Role of the Family in China." *Journal of Population Ageing* 3-4: 103-109.

Porter, M. 2010. "Marriage and The Elderly in China" in *Aging Asia: The Economic and Social Implications of Rapid Demographic Change in China, Japan, and Korea*, edited by K. Eggleston and S. Tuljapurkar, Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press.

King, E. M., S. Klasen, and M. Porter. 2009. "Women and Development." in *Global Crises, Global Solutions*, edited by B. Lomborg, 2nd edition, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

RESEARCH GRANTS

(2022-2024) Building trust in financial services for agriculture in Ethiopia: Digital innovations in crop insurance product design, with Berber Kramer (International Food and Policy Research Institute), Kebebew Assefa (Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research), USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Markets, Risk and Resilience - \$833,000 (Lead PI)

(2020-2021) Trust in Financial Services for Agriculture in Ethiopia: A Field Experiment on Picture-Based Crop Monitoring, with Berber Kramer (International Food and Policy Research Institute), Kebebew Assefa (Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research), and Dinara Abzhamilova (World Food Programme), USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Markets, Risk and Resilience (seed grant) - \$40,000 USD (Lead PI)

(2018-2020) Evaluation of the Marketplace for Nutritious Foods Program, with Vincenzina Caputo, Andrew Jones, Mywish Maredia, Eduardo Nakasone, David Ortega, and Thomas Reardon, David Tschirley - \$1,120,000 USD (Lead PI)

- (2016-2019) The Role of Mexican-Born Workers in the Michigan Dairy Industry, Rackham Foundation, with Rene Rosenbaum and Christopher Wolf - \$90,000 USD (Lead PI)
- (2014-2017) Impact Evaluation of Scaling Up Sweet potato Through Agriculture and Nutrition (SUSTAIN), International Potato Center, with Mywish Maredia, Songqing Jin, and Kimberly Chung - \$1,500,000 USD (co-PI)
- (2013-2015) Demand and Supply Constraints to Improved Sorghum Technology Adoption and their Gender-Differentiated Effects in Burkina Faso. Basis AMA Research Program, with Andrew Dillon and Melinda Smale - \$848,722 USD (co-PI)
- (2011) Understanding Altruism towards Elderly Parents in an Experimental Laboratory Setting. British Academy Small Research Grant - £6,200 GBP (Lead PI)
- (2011) Understanding Altruism towards Elderly Parents in an Experimental Laboratory Setting. OUP Fell Fund - £5,300 GBP (Lead PI)
- (2011) Understanding Inequality in Elderly Well-being in China and the UK, ESRC Grant, with Winnie Yip, Xuan-Mai Stafford, Andrew Steptoe, and Albert Park - £99,261 GBP (co-PI)

FIELDWORK AND DATASETS COLLECTED

- Midline Survey of Households for: Building trust in financial services for agriculture in Ethiopia: Digital innovations in crop insurance product design, with Berber Kramer (2024)
- Baseline Survey of Households for: Building trust in financial services for agriculture in Ethiopia: Digital innovations in crop insurance product design, with Berber Kramer (2023)
- Survey and insurance-related lab experiment of Ethiopian farmers, with Berber Kramer and Solomon Wassie (2021)
- Survey of consumers in Nairobi slums, with Vincenzina Caputo, Andrew Jones, Mywish Maredia, Eduardo Nakasone, David Ortega, Dave Tschirley (2020, 2021)
- Survey of retail outlets in Nairobi slums, with Mywish Maredia and Eduardo Nakasone (2020, 2021)
- Survey of food environment in Nairobi slums, with Andrew Jones and Dave Tschirley (2020)
- Survey of Kenyan firms for evaluation of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition's Marketplace for Nutritious Foods, with Mywish Maredia and Eduardo Nakasone (2019, 2020)
- Survey of dairy workers in Michigan, with Vincenzina Caputo, Danielle Kaminski, Rene Rosenbaum (2018)
- Survey of U.S. dairy operators, with Chris Wolf (2018)
- SUSTAIN evaluation follow-up survey in Rwanda, with Jarrad Farris, Songqing Jin, Mywish Maredia (2017-2018)
- Microdosing follow-up survey in Burkina Faso, with Andrew Dillon (2017)
- Laboratory experiments on giving to parents in China, with Dandan Zhang, Xiaobo Zhang (2017)

Laboratory experiments on mood and risk preferences, with Bachir Kassas, Marco Palma (2017)
Microdosing Experiment in Burkina Faso: Follow-up and Adoption Survey, with Andrew Dillon and Melinda Smale (2015)
SUSTAIN evaluation baseline survey in Rwanda, with Songqing Jin, Mywish Maredia (2014-2015)
Microdosing Experiment in Burkina Faso: Listing, Social Network Census, and Baseline, with Andrew Dillon and Melinda Smale (2014)
Lab experiments on giving to one's parents in Oxford, England (2011)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate:

Behavioral and Experimental Economics for PPEL (University of Arizona, 2021)
Economics of the Family, Gender, and Inequality (University of Arizona, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)
Fundamentals of Economics for PPEL (University of Arizona, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)
Capstone seminar for PPEL on: Using Experimental Methods to Understand Social Preferences (University of Arizona, 2022, 2023, 2024)
Capitalism and Socialism (University of Arizona 2024)
Economics of Decision Making: Managerial Economics for the Agri-Food System (Michigan State University, 2017, 2019, 2020)
Development Economics (University of Oxford, 2012)
Elements of Economic Analysis II (University of Chicago, 2005)

Graduate:

Economics of the Family, Gender, and Inequality (University of Arizona, 2022, 2023)
Fundamentals of Economics for PPEL (University of Arizona, 2023)
Introductory Econometrics (Michigan State University, 2018, 2019, 2020)
Advanced Topics in Agricultural Development Economics (Michigan State University, 2017)
Development Economics (University of Oxford, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)

PRESENTATIONS

2025: Western Risk and Insurance Association (Puerto Vallarta, Mexico), Applied Demography Conference (Tucson, AZ)
2024: American Economics Association (San Antonio, TX), Pacific Conference for Development Economics (Stanford University), Economic Methodology: Models, Measurements, and Interventions Conference (Stanford University Philosophy Department), Population Association of America (Columbus, OH), Annual Technical Meeting for Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Markets, Risk and Resilience (Washington, DC), Economic Science Association North America meeting (Columbus, OH)
2023: Midwest International Economic Development Conference (Houston, TX)
2021: University of Arizona School of Government and Public Policy, University of Arizona Economics Department, on Symposium Resilience Research for Global Development

Challenges at University of Arizona, Economic Science Association North American Annual Meeting

- 2019: Symposium on Economic Experiments in Developing Countries (Berkeley, CA), IUSSP Population, Poverty and Inequality Research Conference (Ann Arbor, MI), University of Notre Dame Economics Department, University of Arizona Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Michigan State University Development Economics Brown Bag
- 2018: Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Washington, DC)
- 2017: Society of the Economics of the Household Inaugural Meeting (San Diego, CA)
- 2016: University of Chicago Economics Department, Summer Institute on Field Experiments (University of Chicago)
- 2015: Economic Science Association North American Conference (Dallas, TX), Science of Philanthropy Initiative Annual Conference (Chicago, IL), Western Michigan University Economics Department
- 2014: Michigan State University Development Economics Seminar, American Economics Association Annual Conference (Philadelphia, PA)
- 2013: Economic Science Association Conference (Santa Cruz, CA), Michigan State University Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Social Science History Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL), Stanford University Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center
- 2012: Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, Michigan State University Department of Economics
- 2011: Nuffield College Centre for Experimental Social Sciences, Royal Economics Society annual meeting (Royal Holloway University of London), Chinese Economics Association meeting (Oxford, UK)
- 2010: University of Southampton, Population/Poverty Conference (Cape Town, South Africa)
- 2009: International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) Conference (Marrakech, Morocco), Population Association of America annual meeting (Detroit, MI), Aging Asia Conference (Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University), University of Oxford Centre for the Study of African Economies Seminar, Oxford Institute of Ageing, Chinese University of Hong Kong Economics Department, American Economics Association Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA)
- 2008: World Bank Development Economics Research Group, University of Chicago Demography Workshop, Economic Demography Workshop at Population Association of America annual meeting (New Orleans, LA), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management conference (Washington, DC)
- 2007: Chinese Economists Society Annual Conference (Changsha, China), University of Illinois-Chicago Health Policy Seminar
- 2006: Northeast Universities Development Consortium (Cornell University)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer for submissions to PAA 2025 Applied Demography Conference

Mentor for BASIS Markets, Risk and Resilience Innovation Lab ALL-IN Research Grantee based in Nigeria (2020-2024)

Guest Editor of special issue of *Journal of Population Ageing*, on Ageing, Health, and Well-Being in China, December 2010, Vol. 3, Numbers 3-4.

Grant reviewer for: Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Markets, Risk and Resilience, World Bank Research Department, Fonds National de la Recherche, GERPA (Gender, Economic Research, and Policy Analysis), and National Science Foundation (NSF)

Reviewer of abstracts for Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting

Journal Referee for: *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, *Agricultural Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, *B.E. Journal of Economics Analysis and Policy*, *China Agricultural Economic Review*, *China Economic Review*, *China Quarterly*, *Demographic Research*, *Development and Change*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Food Policy*, *Health Economics*, *Health Economics Review*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, *Journal of Agricultural Science and Research*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, *Population Studies*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economics of the Household*, *Social Inclusion*, *Southern Economic Journal*

DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Mentor for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Consortium (2024, UA)

Co-leader for College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Academic Writing Group (2023, UA)

External search committee member for Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics (2023, UA)

Admissions officer for students for Advanced Standing in PPEL (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, UA)

Undergraduate student awards committee member (2021, UA)

Search committee member (2021, UA)

Graduate Student Job Placement Committee member (2017-2020, MSU)

Organizer of Development Economics Brown Bag Seminar (2017-2018, MSU)

Development Field Exam Committee member (2017, MSU)