

Flavio Malagutti

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS	University of Copenhagen Postdoctoral Researcher, Development Economics Research Group	2026-Present
	University of California, Santa Barbara Postdoctoral Researcher, Environmental Markets Lab (EmLab)	2025-26
EDUCATION	University of California, Santa Barbara Ph.D., Environmental Science and Management Specialization in Economics & Environmental Science (EES) Fields: Development, Behavioral, and Environmental Economics Committee: Kelsey Jack, Olivier Deschenes, Erik Eyster	2025
	Seattle University B.A., Economics, <i>cum laude</i> Specialization in International Economic Development NCAA D1 Tennis	2013
PUBLICATIONS	Factors associated with the use of liquefied petroleum gas in Ghana vary at different stages of transition with Abhishek Kar, Theresa Tawiah, Linnea Graham, Georgette Owusu-Amankwah, Misbath Daouda, Steve Chillrud, Erin Harned, Seidu Iddrisu, Edward Apraku, Richard Tetteh, Sule Awuni, Kelsey Jack, Sulemana Abubakari, Darby Jack, Kwaku Asante. <i>Nature Energy</i> , (2024) 9(4): 434-445, Cover Article. [Link]	
	Environmental externalities and free-riding in the household with Kelsey Jack, Seema Jayachandran, Sarojini Rao <i>Journal of Development Economics</i> , (2024) 170: 103294. [Link]	
WORKING PAPERS	Targeting subsidies through price menus: Menu design and evidence from clean fuels with Sulemana Abubakari, Kwaku Asante, Misbath Daouda, Kelsey Jack, Darby Jack, Paulina Oliva <i>Status: R&R, Journal of Political Economy</i> [Link]	
	With my mind on my money: Labor productivity in the anticipation of an income shock Previously “Financial concerns, cognitive abilities, and economic decisions” with Lei Yue <i>Status: Working paper</i> [Link]	
IN PROGRESS	Long-term electricity demand in central Ghana and the role of prices in incentivizing electrification with Sulemana Abubakari <i>Status: writing manuscript</i>	
	Can women self-help groups improve financial stability and quality of life of households receiving government cash transfers?	

with Peter Otieno and Komal Trishna
Status: writing manuscript

Behavioral Incentives for Land Conservation in South Africa
with Kathy Baylis and Robert Heilmayr
Status: preparing fieldwork

One good, two locations: The effect of in-kind electricity transfers on residential and commercial consumption by firm-households in central Ghana
with Sulemana Abubakari
Status: in pause

RESEARCH GRANTS

Financial concerns, cognitive abilities, and economic decisions

Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)
Spring Development Economics Challenge, USD 19,986 2024
Psychology and Economics of Poverty, USD 5,000 2024
Psychology and Economics of Poverty, USD 10,000 2022

Can Women Self-Help Groups Improve Financial Stability and Quality of Life of Households Receiving Government Cash Transfers?

Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)
Global Networks Research Award, USD 70,000 2023

Electricity usage and substitution by micro-entrepreneurs in central Ghana

International Growth Center (IGC)
Full Research Grant, GBP 42,000 2022
Small Projects Facility, GBP 15,500 2022
J-PAL King Climate Action Initiative
Project development grant, USD 5,200 2021

TEACHING

University of California, Santa Barbara
ESM 228: Monitoring and Impact Evaluation (Master's level; Co-instructor) 2023

PRESENTATIONS

Labor productivity in the anticipation of an income shock

Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev) Davis, CA 2026
NYU Cash Transfer Lab Webinar, 2025
Economic Science Association (ESA) African Meeting Nairobi, Kenya, 2025
Africa Evidence Summit (CEGA) Nairobi, Kenya, 2025

Long-term electricity demand in central ghana

Towards Affordable and Sustainable Electricity Sector (IGC-Ghana) Ghana, 2025

GasPay: Using digital finance to connect the LPG market in Ghana

Inclusive Futures: Digital Financial Inclusion to Achieve the SDGs Webinar, 2023
(World Bank, Innovations for Poverty Action, and Better than Cash Alliance)

Combating household air pollution with clean energy sources

Development Impact West Africa Summit (CEGA) Ghana, 2022

SERVICE

Refereeing

Journal of Development Economics, Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economics, Nature Food

Mentoring

CEGA Fellow PhD Mentor, winter 2024

Leadership

Biweekly reading group on Energy and International Development with UCSB faculty and graduate students from economics, political science, and environmental science, 2019 - 2021.

**RESEARCH
EMPLOYMENT****Columbia University World Projects**

Graduate Student Researcher

United States and Ghana, 2020-25

Institute at Brown for Environment and Society (IBES)

Research Consultant

Brazil, 2016-19

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

Senior Research Associate

Brazil, 2016

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)

Research Associate

Paraguay and Zambia, 2014-16

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (native), English and Spanish (full professional fluency), Italian (beginner)

CITIZENSHIP

Brazilian, Italian

REFERENCES**Kelsey Jack**

Sheth Sustainable Business Chancellor's
Chair
Haas School of Business
University of California, Berkeley
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Olivier Deschenes

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Department of Economics
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Erik Eyster

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Mark Buntaine (Teaching Reference)

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Last updated: June, 2026