

Boubacar Diop

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Université de Sherbrooke

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Quebec, J1K 2R1, Canada

Research interests Impact Evaluation, Structural Transformation, Labor Economics, Education, Economic Development, Developing Countries, Poverty Analysis, Local Development, Rural Development, Gender Differences, Natural disasters

Education

Université de Sherbrooke	Sherbrooke, Québec
PhD in Development Economics	August 2015 – Summer 2021 (expected)
Supervisor: Professor Pelli, M.	
University Cheikh Anta Diop	Dakar, Senegal
MA in Rural Economics	June 2012 – June 2015
MA in Business Administration & Economics	March 2013 – Sept. 2014
BA in Economics, minor in Accounting	October 2007 – July 2010
Institut Africain de Management (IAM)	Dakar, Senegal
BA in Business Administration	October 2007 – July 2010

Research papers **Trade Policy, Agricultural Productivity and Structural Transformation: An Empirical Study (Job Market Paper)** (Latest version: [Here](#))

Abstract:

How does trade policy influence the effect of agricultural productivity on the structural transformation of developing countries? The Indian 1991 trade reform and the use of electricity for irrigation purposes in the Indian agricultural sector offer an excellent setting to empirically study this issue. Methodologically, I adopt a strategy similar to Edmonds, Pavcnik and Topalova (2010) and use a consumption based measure of tariff at the district level to compare the structural transformation path of districts (considered as small open economies) more exposed to liberalization to less exposed. I instrument districts' tariff measure by geographical accessibility variables that determine whether residents of a district have access to imported goods. I also tackle the endogeneity of the electrification level of districts by using the state-level hydroelectric supply shift interacted with the percentage of district area covered by water area in 1970. The results suggest opposing evidence to David Ricardo's theory of comparative advantage. A decline of the level of tariffs applied to foreign products, combined with the spread of electricity use for irrigation have a significant effect on labor reallocation across sectors. I notice a decrease of the agricultural labor share in districts that experienced a greater decrease of tariff level and an increase of the labor share in other sectors of the economy.

Structural Transformation or Loss of Natural Resources: an Indian Dilemma (Latest version: [Here](#))

Abstract:

I study the effect of electricity use for irrigation on the structural transformation of the Indian economy and its repercussions on natural resources. In the empirical work, I address the endogeneity problems of the electricity variable by using the state-level supply shifts in hydro-electric power availability weighted by the initial level of electrification of each district (1992) as an instrumental variable. The findings suggest that electricity adoption for irrigation is labor and land-saving as it increases agricultural yields, with less factor of production required. I observe a labor reallocation from the agricultural sector towards the manufacturing sector with an analysis at the district level. This is confirmed by the analysis at the household level, with a decrease of household members working in agriculture and an increase in non-agriculture. I find no significant effect on water table depletion. And using electricity for irrigation seems to affect forest cover through electricity generation from coal-fired power plant.

Childhood Exposure to Storms and Long-Term Educational Attainments in India (Working paper: [Here](#))

Angelique J. Bernabe, Boubacar Diop, Martino Pelli and Jeanne Tschopp.

Abstract:

This paper studies the long term impact of storms on human capital formation in India by examining how exposure to storms over the course of compulsory schooling affects educational attainments and the type of activity performed by individuals in young adulthood. Using the 2018 survey of the labor force and storms' best tracks over the period 1990-2010, we construct a unique continuous measure of childhood exposure to storms that varies by birth-year cohort and district. We find that storms lead to substantial disruptive impacts on education. In the districts exposed to the most powerful winds, the estimates imply that children are 9% more likely to accumulate an educational delay and are 6.5% less likely to obtain higher levels of education (beyond secondary school). In the long run, these delays are reflected in the type of labor market activity that these individuals perform. Using childhood exposure to storms as an instrument, we find that a one-year educational delay leads to a 42.6% drop in the probability of accessing regular salaried work. We determine that storms impact education through their impact on households' income and provide separate policy recommendations for urban and rural areas.

Research experience

Ryerson University, Department of Economics

Mentor: Professor Tschopp, J.

November 2018

Visiting PhD Student

Research Assistant

Mentors: Professor Pelli, M. (Université de Sherbrooke) and Professor Tschopp, J. (University of Bern)

February 2018 – Present

Internship: Consortium pour la Recherche Économique et Sociale (CRES)

Dakar, Senegal

Mentor: Professor Cabral, F. J.

January 2014 – June 2014

Teaching experience

Lecturer, Department of Economics (Université de Sherbrooke) Winter 2021

ECN107: Principles of optimization

Teaching assistant, Department of Economics (Université de Sherbrooke)

ECN107: Principles of optimization

Winter 2018, 2019, 2020

ECN323: Statistics for econometrics

Autumn 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

ECN204: Introduction to microeconomics

Winter 2018, 2019

Working experience	<p>Actions Interculturelles Sherbrooke, Quebec Short term contract May 2019 – August 2019 Collect socio-economic data on migrants residing in the province of Quebec; generate statistics and analyse the unemployment profile of migrants.</p> <p>Agence Régionale de Développement (ARD) Kaolack, Senegal Assistant to the project supervisor February 2015 – August 2015 Participate in weekly group consultation with all project stakeholders; Participate in seminars and training sessions to strengthen the capacities of ARD agents in development project management; Prepare follow-up reports for managers and technical and financial partners; Monitor the progress of infrastructure construction work in the field; Update the monitoring and evaluation database.</p> <p>Banque Centrale des États de l’Afrique de l’Ouest (BCEAO) Dakar, Senegal Internship December 2010 – January 2011 Participate in the elaboration of the business survey by conducting telephone surveys with company managers.</p> <p>Ecobank Thies, Senegal Internship October 2010 – November 2010 Participate in marketing activities to publicize services offered by the bank to the public; Provide information to clients about their account.</p>
Skills	<p>Programming Proficient in: Stata, Word, Excel, Power Point, LATEX. Familiar with: EViews, R, MATLAB, GAMS, Arc-GIS.</p> <p>Languages French (fluent), English (advanced)</p>
Service and outreach	<p>Fondation de l’Université de Sherbrooke January 2019 – Present Fund raiser from employees and graduates of Université de Sherbrooke to help students in financial difficulty and to finance research projects and facilities for students.</p>
Memberships	<p>Groupe de Recherche en Économie et Développement International (GRÉDI) Centre Interuniversitaire de Recherche en ANalyse des Organisations (CIRANO)</p>
Other interests	<p>Sport, Reading, Hiking.</p>
References	<p>Upon request.</p>