

BENJAMIN SCHWAB
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Education

- 2011 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PhD in Agricultural and Applied Economics
- 2009 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MA in Agricultural and Applied Economics
- 2004 RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, RUTGERS COLLEGE GENERAL HONORS PROGRAM
BA in Economics and Middle Eastern Studies, Summa cum Laude

Current Position

- 2020- Associate Professor, Kansas State University, Department of Agricultural Economics
- 2023-2024 Visiting Scholar, UC Berkeley, Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management (ESPM)

Previous Positions

- 2014-2020 Assistant Professor, Kansas State University, Department of Agricultural Economics
- 2014 Associate Research Fellow; International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Poverty, Health, Nutrition Division (PHND)
- 2011-2013 Postdoctoral Fellow, IFPRI, PHND

Research Interests

Development Economics, Health Economics, Agriculture & Nutrition, Cannabis Policy

Published Journal Articles

- Thrikawala, S., Kandangama, N., **Schwab, B.** & J. Weerahewa. (2024). "Economic value and determinants of post-harvest losses of tomato at the retail level: A case study in Kandy District, Sri Lanka." *Agribusiness*, forthcoming.
- Schwab, B.** & J. Yu. (2024) "Guaranteed storage? Risk and credit constraints in the demand for postharvest technology." *Oxford Economic Papers*, forthcoming.
- Peterson-Wilhelm, B. & **B. Schwab.** (2024) "How does recall bias in labor data impact separability tests?" *Food Policy*, 128:102669.

- Yao, B., Shanoyan, A., **Schwab, B** & V. Amanor-Boadu. (2023) "The role of mobile money in household resilience: Evidence from Kenya." *World Development*. 165(C).
- Yao, B., Shanoyan, A., **Schwab, B.** & V. Amanor-Boadu. (2022) "Mobile Money, transaction Costs, and market participation: Evidence from Cote d'Ivoire and Tanzania." *Food Policy*, 112:102370.
- Hodjo, M., **B. Schwab**, Kere, M., Milougo, V., & A. Srivastava (2021). "Demand for agriculture mechanization in the Hauts-Bassins Region (HBR) in Burkina Faso." *Journal of Agribusiness*, 39(1): 39-64
- Peterman, A., **Schwab, B.**, Roy, S., Hidrobo, M., & D. Gilligan. (2021). "Measuring women's decision-making: Indicator choice and survey design experiments from cash and food transfer evaluations in Ecuador, Uganda and Yemen." *World Development* 141 (May)
- Namingit, S., Blankenau, W. & **B. Schwab**. (2021). "Sick and Tell: A field experiment analyzing the effects of an illness-related employment gap on the callback rate." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 185 (May): 865-882
- Ebert, K., Hoch, B., Taylor, H., & **B. Schwab**. (2020). "From the ground up: A look at Kansas' first year of industrial hemp production." *Western Economics Forum*, 18(2), December.
- Schwab, B.**, Janzen, S., Magnan, N., & W. Thompson. (2020). "swindex: Constructing a summary index using the standardized inverse covariance weighted average of indicators." *Stata Journal*. 20(4): 952-964.
- Kang, M., **Schwab, B.**, & J. Yu. (2020). "Gender differences in the relationship between land ownership and managerial rights: Implications for intrahousehold farm labor allocation." *World Development*. 125 (January)
- Schwab, B.** (2020). "In the form of bread? A randomized comparison of cash and food transfers in Yemen." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. 102(1): 91-113
- Schwab, B.** (2019). "Comparing the productive effects of cash and food transfers in a crisis setting: Evidence from a randomized experiment in Yemen." *Journal of Development Studies*. 55:sup1, 29-54
- Schwab, B.**, A. Wartenberg and V. Butsic. (2019). "Characteristics of farms applying for cannabis cultivation permits." *California Agriculture*. 73(3): 128-135.
- Schwab, B.** & R. Armah (2019). "Can food safety shortfalls disrupt 'Ag for Nutrition' gains? Evidence from Eid al Adha." *Food Policy*. 83(C): 170-179. (IPUMS Best Published Research in Global Health Award)
- Butsic, V., **Schwab, B.**, Baumann, M., & J. Brenner. (2017). "Inside the Emerald Triangle: Modeling the placement and size of cannabis production in Humboldt County, CA USA." *Ecological Economics*. 142: 70-80.
- Hoel, J., **Schwab, B.** & J. Hoddinott. (2016). "Self-control fatigue, cognitive function, and the expression of time preference: Experimental results from Ethiopia." *Journal of Economic Psychology*. 52: 136-146.
- Cowan, B. & **B. Schwab**. (2016). "Employer sponsored health insurance and the gender wage gap." *Journal of Health Economics*. 45(1): 103-114.
- Brandt, J., Butsic, V., **Schwab, B.**, Radloff, V. & T. Kuemmerle (2015). "The relative effectiveness of protected areas, a logging ban, and sacred areas for old-growth forest protection in southwest China." *Biological Conservation*. 181: 1-8.
- Heathers, J., Hoel, J., Wegerif, S., **Schwab, B.**, Ledlie, N., Abay, K., & J. Hoddinott (2014). "Smartphone platform survey-scale heart rate collection: a performance evaluation in Ethiopia." *Proceedings of Wireless Health 2014*, October.
- Cowan, B. & **B. Schwab**. (2011). "The Incidence of the healthcare costs of smoking." *Journal of Health Economics* 30(5): 1094-1102.

Articles Under Review

Schwab, B. & V. Butsic. "Green Acres: Cannabis agriculture, formalization and rural land values in Northern California." *Revise and Resubmit, temporarily withdrawn*

Ijaz, A., Yu, J, **Schwab, B.**, & J. Cho. "Quality Signaling and Willingness-to-Pay: An Experimental Assessment" *Revise and Resubmit*

Book Chapters

"The role of the Tigray Pilot Social Cash Transfer programme and its evaluation in the evolution of the Tigray Social Protection Policy", in Davis, B., Handa, S., Hypher, N., Rossi, N. W., Winters, P., & Yablonski, J. (Eds.). (2016). *From evidence to action: the story of cash transfers and impact evaluation in sub Saharan Africa*. Oxford University Press: pp. 168-196 (W/ Pearson, R. Afaw. S. & 19 others)

Book and Media Reviews

Schwab, B. (2020). "Media Review: What happens when a state grows way too much weed?" *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 102(3): 1050-1052

Working Papers/In progress

"Social Desirability Bias in Program Evaluation: The Case of a Childhood Nutrition Program in Sri Lanka" (with B. Peterson-Wilhelm, D. Hemachandra and D. Headey).

"Analyzing Food Price Movements Using Crowdsourced Data" (with B. Peterson-Wilhelm)

"The Impact of Telescoping Bias on Income and Price Elasticities" (with B. Peterson-Wilhelm)

"Which doctors recommend marijuana? Evidence from three states" (with D. Alexander and D. Slusky)

"The Impact of farm training on efficiency of small scale farms in Armenia" (with W. Embaye, Shanoyan, A. and J. Bergtold)

"Who Has the Time? The Gendered Division of Agricultural Labor and Demand for Mechanized Services in Ethiopia" (with M. Hodjo)

"Much ado about modalities: Multicountry experiments on the effects of cash and food transfers on consumption patterns" (with D. Giligan, M. Hidrobo, J. Hoddinott and S. Roy)

"Nutrition, education and development: the case of vitamin D milk"

"The rhythm of the rains: seasonal effects on child health in The Gambia" (with O. Gajigo)

"Maternal fasting during Ramadan and child health: evidence from 40 countries"

"Endogenous epidemics and long run economic development"

"Land distribution and long term inequality: a unified growth model approach"

Reports

2020 **Schwab, B.**, Leatherman, J. & B. Yao. (2020). "Evaluation of the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative (KHFI)", Submitted to The Food Trust and the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative

2017 **Schwab, B.**, and V. Butsic. "Estimating the Impact of Cannabis Production on Rural Land Prices in Humboldt County, CA." Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-258. Albany, CA: US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station: 395-402.

2017 Hodjo, M., **Schwab, B.**, and Kere, M. "Baseline Survey report of the Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium: Burkina Faso" Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab

2013	Schwab, B. , Margolies, A. & J. Hoddinott. Impact Evaluation of Cash and Food Transfers for the Seasonal Emergency Safety Net in Hajjah and Ibb Governorates, Yemen: Endline Report
2012	Schwab, B. , Peterman, A., Moreira, V., Margolies, A. & J. Hoddinott. Impact Evaluation of Cash and Food Transfers for the Seasonal Emergency Safety Net in Hajjah and Ibb Governorates, Yemen: Baseline Report
2012	Schwab, B. , Berhane, G., Devereux, S., Hoddinott, J., Tegebu, F., Roelen, K., & A.S. Taffesse. Evaluation of the Social Cash Transfers Pilot Programme, Tigray Region, Ethiopia: Baseline Report
2012	Schwab, B. , Berhane, G., Devereux, S., Hoddinott, J., Tegebu, F., Roelen, K., & A.S. Taffesse. Evaluation of the Social Cash Transfers Pilot Programme, Tigray Region, Ethiopia: Inception Report

Teaching Experience

Instructor	Causal Inference: An Introduction to Concepts, Methods and Practice. University of Peradeniya. 2023, March-April (workshop).
Instructor	Quantitative Topics in Agricultural Economics [Causal Inference Module] (AGEC936), 2022-2024;
Instructor	Global Agricultural Development (AGEC615); Kansas State University; 2014-2022, Fall.
Instructor	Principles of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness (AGEC120); Kansas State University; 2015-2022, Fall.
Instructor	Causal Inference Using Experimental and Non-Experimental Methods: Applications in Applied Microeconomics. Makerere University; 2018, Summer.
TA	Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa. (AAE477). University of Wisconsin, Spring.

Conference and Invited Seminar Presentations

2024	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans);
2023	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Washington DC); Sri Lankan Agricultural Economics Association (Peradeniya); Bangladesh Postharvest Loss Dissemination Workshop (Dhaka); Centre for Poverty Analysis (Colombo).
2022	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Anaheim)
2021	The Food Trust/Kansas Health Foundation
2020	The Food Trust/Kansas Health Foundation
2019	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Atlanta); University of Wisconsin Agricultural and Applied Economics Department (Madison); UNICEF/IPC-IG Social Protection Webinar (UNICEF-Lebanon); Kansas State University Agricultural Economics Department (Manhattan, KS); Economics and Management of Risk in Agriculture and Natural Resources (SCC-76) Annual Meeting

2018	Northeastern Universities Development Conference (NEUDC) (Ithaca, NY); International Conference on Agricultural Economics (ICAE) (Vancouver, Canada); UNICEF Workshop on Social Protection Programmes in Humanitarian Settings (Florence, Italy); Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MIEDC) (Minneapolis, MN)
2017	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Chicago); Kansas University Economics Department (Lawrence); Midwest International Economic Development Conference (MIEDC Madison); Conference on Study of African Economies (CSAE Oxford); Pacific Development Conference (PACDEV Riverside)
2016	Missouri Valley Economics Association Annual Meeting (St. Louis); University of California Coast Redwood Forest Symposium (Humboldt, CA); Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Boston);
2015	Midwest International Economic Development Conference (Madison)
2014	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Minneapolis); Midwest International Economic Development Conference (Minneapolis);
2013	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (Washington DC); World Bank Health Impact Evidence & Action to Save Lives in Nigeria, (Uyo, Nigeria); Kansas State University Agricultural Economics Department; Kansas University Economics Department (Lawrence);
2012	American Society of Health Economics 4th biennial conference (Minneapolis); European Conference on Health Economics (Zurich); Humboldt University Departmental Seminar in Geography (Berlin)
2011	American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting (Pittsburgh); Cornell PAM; Harvard School of Public Health; IFPRI; International Health Economics Association 8th World Congress (Toronto); Mathematica; University of Colorado-Denver; Tufts University Fletcher School; Yale School of Public Health
2010	Wisconsin Economics Association, (Stevens Point, WI); Middle East and North Africa Health Policy Forum, World Bank (Amman); Global Health Symposium, University of Wisconsin (Madison)
2009	Guanajuato Workshop for Young Economists, University of Guanajuato

Funded Research, Grants, Awards & Fellowships

External Funding

2024-2026	Co-PI, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics (LDI), University of Pennsylvania “Medical Marijuana and Physician Care”. \$13,650
2021	PI, The Food Trust, “Impact Analysis of the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative: Phase 2”, \$6,150
2020-2022	Co-PI, California Bureau of Cannabis Control, “The effect of local cannabis regulation on property prices”, 270,269 (Responsible: \$20,000)
2020	PI, The Food Trust, “Impact Analysis of the Kansas Healthy Food Initiative”, \$45,000
2019-2021	Co-lead PI (w/ Yu, J.), USAID Feed the Future Postharvest Loss Reduction Innovation Lab, Agricultural Economics Component (Phase II). \$431,257

2019-2020	Co-PI, National Institute of Food and Agriculture Multistate Project (S1084), "Industrial Hemp Production, Processing, and Marketing in the US." \$104,000 (Responsible: \$35,000)
2018	Co-PI, USAID Postharvest Loss Reduction Innovation Lab, "Demand for Hermetic Storage Bags in Ghana." \$7,000.
2017	PI, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service/Millennium Challenge Corporation, "Synthesizing Lessons from the Deep Dive Bucket Reports." \$7,401
2015-2020	Co-PI, USAID Feed the Future Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab "Adoption of Sustainable Intensification in Dual-Purpose Millet - Leguminous Crops - Livestock Systems to Improve Food and Nutritional Security and Natural Resources Management for Rural Small Holder Farmers in Senegal", \$998,000 (Responsible: 2,200)
2015-2020	Co-PI, Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium (ASMC) of the USAID Feed the Future Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab ; \$5,000,000 (Responsible: \$121,724)
2014-2015	PI, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service/Millennium Challenge Corporation, "Deep dive analysis of the Armenia Water-to-Market Training Program". \$139,818
2012-13	Co-PI, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), "Expanding lessons from a randomized impact evaluation of cash and food transfers."
2011-14	Co-Investigator, UNICEF, Evaluation of the social cash transfers pilot programme in Tigray, Ethiopia
2011-13	Co-Investigator, World Food Programme (WFP), Randomized Evaluation of Cash, Food and Vouchers (Yemen country leader)

Awards and Honors

2022-2023	Fulbright Scholar Award-Sri Lanka
2020	IPUMS Research Award: Best Published Research in Global Health for "Can food safety shortfalls disrupt 'Ag for Nutrition' gains?"
2017	Co-recipient, Innovative Teaching Award, Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU)
2010	Robert Wood Johnson Dissertation Grant, RWJ Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program
2010	Honorable Mention, Best Paper Award; MENA Health Policy Forum (World Bank)
2009	Pass with Distinction: Major Preliminary Exam; Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
2006-11	National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH) Traineeship in Health Economics
2005-06	Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) for Arabic in Yemen and the University of Wisconsin
2004	Sidney Simon Award, best undergraduate economics thesis, Rutgers University
2003	Bear Stearns and Co. Merit Scholarship for most outstanding Junior economics student at Rutgers University (co-winner)

Selected External Consulting Activity

- 2024 Lead International Project Evaluation Expert (STC), World Bank, Sri Lanka Agriculture Sector Modernization Program (ASMP)
- 2022-2023 Expert Consultant, Here We Grow gGmbH, Unconditional Cash transfer (UCT) program.
- 2008 Field Evaluation Analyst (STC), World Bank, Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program

Advising and Service

Graduate Advising

Major Professor

- PhD: Agricultural Economics: Five students (four completed)
- MS: Agricultural Economics: One student (one completed)

Advisee Awards

- 2019 Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Outstanding Master's Thesis (Hanna Ruder)
- 2017 University Distinguished Professors Graduate Student Award (Weldensie Embaye)

Committee Member

- PhD: Agricultural Economics: Four Students (two completed); Economics: Four students (three completed)
- MS: Agricultural Economics: Two Students (one completed)

Undergraduate Advising

Advise 20 to 30 undergraduate students per year

Advisee honors: Marshall Scholarship; McNair Scholar; Truman Scholar finalist

Professional Service & Leadership

Chair/chair-elect/Past-chair International Section, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), 2021-2024

Referee: *Agribusiness; Agricultural Economics; Agricultural Finance Review, American Journal of Agricultural Economics; Applied Economics; Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy; Applied Economics Teaching Resources; Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics; Ecological Economics; Economic Inquiry; Economics and Human Biology; Empirical Economics; Food Policy; Health Economics; International Journal of Health Economics and Management; Journal of African Economics; Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics; Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of Development Studies; Nature Human Behavior; Nature Sustainability; PLOS ONE; Public Health; World Bank Economic Review; World Development;*

Reviewer: 3ie: International Initiative for Impact Evaluation grants; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting Topic leader (Development Economics), Washington DC 2013; Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting (2014-2018, 2020, 2022, 2023); GCFSI Food System Innovation grant; 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economics, New Delhi.(2024); Kansas Health Economics Conference co-organizer (2020); Mid-west Health Economics Conference (2022).

Committee Service at Kansas State University

- Graduate Preliminary Exam Committee (2024-)
- Search Committees: Agricultural Economics. Assistant/Associate Professor in Risk Management; USAID Feed the Future Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab, Associate Director.
- Diversity Committee