YUANHANG WANG

Texas A&M University
College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
Department of Agricultural Economics

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RESEARCH INTERESTS	Development Economics, applied microeconomics, climate change, poverty

EDUCATION

Texas A&M Univesity	College Station, TX
PhD in Agricultural Economics	2020 - Present
Advisor: Kashi Kafle.	
Texas A&M Univesity	College Station, TX
MS in Economics	2018 - 2020
Rutgers University	New Brunswick, NJ
BA in Economics, minor in Statistics (Cum Laude)	2017

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Texas A&M University Graduate Research Assistantship	2022-2024
AAEA Trust Scholarship	2022
Texas A&M University Graduate Teaching Assistantship	2020-2022

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda"
Kashi Kafle, Yuanhang Wang, Barnabas Kiiza.

"Remittance and Personal Security in Kyrgyzstan"
Yuanhang Wang, Kashi Kafle, and Shahriar Kibriya.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Remittance and Personal Security in Kyrgyzstan
Advisors: Kashi Kafle and Shahriar Kibriya. Jan 2023 – Present
-Conducted literature reviews on remittance, regional conflict, and social security.
-Used the "Life in Kyrgyzstan" Study (LiK Study) data to study the interrelationship between remittance, security, and conflict.
-Used data from The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) for crossvalidation.
-Wrote draft based on the updated results.

Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda

Advisors: Kashi Kafle, Barnabas Kiiza   Jan 2022 – Present

-Conducted literature reviews on migration and weather shocks.

-Used the Living Standard Measurement Study – Integrated Survey in Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) panel data from Uganda to study the interrelationship between migration, agriculture, and climate change.

-Gathered meteorological rainfall and temperature data from Copernicus ERA5-Land hourly data and merged it with LSMS-ISA household data using ArcGIS.

-Conducted two focused group discussions in Uganda. Designed the questionnaire. Collected data from interviewees and prepared the summary report.

Forecasting 2020 US Recession Probability with Multivariate Logistic Modele

Advisor: Li Gan   2020

-Conducted literature reviews on inversed spread terms and other financial market indicators.

-Constructed the static nonlinear model and neural network model to estimate the spread term forecasting probability of recessions in history.

-Yielded results with recession will occur in the third quarter of 2020 with the static nonlinear model; recession will occur in the first quarter of 2020 with the neural network model.

College Towns: Handle Data With Care

Mentors: Dennis W. Jansen   2019

-Conducted college town list based on restricted criteria using American Community Survey (ACS).

-Investigated the college town counties in aspects of house affordability, education level, age, ethnicity, and crime rate for report writing.

Published on Private Enterprise Research Center [Download the latest version here].

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching assistant, Department of Agricultural Economics

AGEC 430: Macroeconomics of Agriculture	Fall 2021
AGEC 434/634: Rural Financial Markets and Financial Planning	Sring 2021
AGEC 603: Land Economics	Sring 2021
AGEC 430: Macroeconomics of Agriculture	Fall 2020
AGEC 317: Economic Analysis for Agribusiness Management	Fall 2020

Teaching assistant, Department of Economics   Spring 2020

ECON 312: Poverty, Inequality and Social Policy

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE	**Zheshang Venture Capital LLC**	Hangzhou, China
	Enterprise Risk Management Specialist	2018

INDUSTRY
EXPERIENCE

Zheshang Venture Capital LLC   Hangzhou, China
Enterprise Risk Management Specialist   2018
-Supported necessary due diligence on deals and prepared industrial analysis reports.
-Supported risk management specialists with customer interviews, data collection, and basic evaluation.
-Discussed the due diligence results with the investment managers during the weekly meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda
Population Association of America, poster presentation Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.   April 2023
Himalayan Policy Research Conference, University of New Mexico, online presentation.   July 2022

SKILLS

Programming
Proficient in: STATA, R, MATLAB.
Familiar with: SAS, ArcGIS, LS-DYNA, Python, LaTex, Photoshop.

LANGUAGES
Chinese (Native), English (advanced)

OTHER INTERESTS

Reading, shooting, motorcycle, car, history, library, cooking, movies, and road trip.

SELECTED PAPER ABSTRACTS
• "Remittance and Personal Security in Kyrgyzstan." With Kashi Kafle and Shahriar Kibriya. **(Job Market Paper)**

Remittance is a key component of the Kyrgyz economy; remittance constitutes 33% of the country's GDP in 2021. With a long history of ethnic conflicts, political riots, and domestic revolutions, migration is commonplace. Even though insecurity and instability are major drivers for migration, little is known about the relationship between remittance and security. We explore the relationship between remittance and personal security of left-behind household members using longitudinal data between 2010 and 2019. Data come from the Life in Kyrgyzstan survey which collects data from over 10,000 individuals and 2,000 households. We estimate the remittance-security relationship using an ordinal logistic fixed effect estimator. Remittance-receiving households are more likely to feel secure than non-migrant households. We construct an instrument variable with a generalized structural equation model to address the endogeneity of the remittance. Reverse causality, selection bias, and omitted variable bias are also discussed. Heterogeneity analysis shows that remittance is negatively related to the perceived security of poor, female-headed households, and ethnic minority households. The findings highlight the importance of remittances on individual and household security in a context where insecurity-induced migration is common.

• "Weather shocks and migration among small-scale farmers in Uganda." With Kashi Kafle and Barnabas Kiiza.

Frequent and intense weather shocks can have profound implications on small-scale farmers in developing countries. In the absence of reliable and timely weather information, unprecedented weather shocks can influence farmers' decision-making. We take the case of Uganda to investigate the relationship between weather shocks and migration among smallholders. Using longitudinal data from a nationally representative integrated household and agricultural survey – Living Standard Measurement Study-Integrated Survey in Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) –, we examine if household-level weather shocks affect temporary migration. We use the two-way fixed effects estimator on household-level data from seven survey periods between 2009 and 2020. Results show that weather shocks reduce migration among poor households, and the relationship is more pronounced for smallholders. We also find that the relationship differs by the type of migration. Weather shocks reduce migration for employment and educational purposes, but migration for other reasons is not affected by weather shocks. We identify reduced agricultural productivity and low farm revenue as potential channels for the negative relationship between weather shocks and migration.

• "Effects of Social Capital on Rural Livelihoods: Evidence from Uganda."

This study explores the effect of social capital on rural livelihoods such as informal loan access, consumption, food insecurity, child health, and gender difference. Social capital has been widely studied among developed countries but has not been studied systematically in developing countries like Uganda. I use the two-way fixed effect method for estimating the effect of social capital in Uganda. The results indicate that social capital has a positive effect on loan access, growth of loan interest payment, consumption per capita, and growth rate of consumption per capita. The households with social capital from government occupation yield fewer months that would cause food insufficiency; the households with Non-government organizations have less possibility of food insufficiency. However, female-headed households would have a higher rate of food insecurity and longer months of food insufficiency. Furthermore, the households that run private businesses would have a better weight-for-age z-score over other households with social capital or not. The estimation implies that social capital has a broad and impressive impact on informal loans, consumption, food insecurity, child health, and gender which is paramount for policymakers.