

TIMOTHY FOREMAN

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Academic Positions

Research Associate, Qatar Centre for Global Banking and Finance,

King's College London, 2/2021 – present

Affiliated Scientist, RFF-CMCC European Institute on Economics and the Environment, 1/2021-present

Postdoc, RFF-CMCC European Institute on Economics and the Environment, 6/2019 – 12/2020

Adjunct Professor, IE University, 9/2019 – 5/2020

Undergraduate Studies

BS Applied Mathematics, Columbia University, *Magna cum laude*, 2013

Graduate Studies

Columbia University, 2013 - 2019

Ph.D. Sustainable Development

Thesis Title: “Essays on the Economics of Environmental Change”

Teaching and Research Fields

Environmental Economics, Development Economics

Teaching Experience

Fall 2019	Mathematics for Economists, IE University, Instructor (inaugural year of the Bachelor in Economics)
Spring 2017	Political Development in the Developing World, Columbia University, Teaching fellow for Professor Christopher Sabatini
Fall 2016	Research Methods and Quantitative Techniques in Public Management and Policy, Columbia University, Teaching fellow for Professor Selcuk Eren
Spring 2016	Microeconomics Policy and Analysis, Columbia University, Teaching fellow for Professor Selcuk Eren
Fall 2015	Intermediate Microeconomics, Columbia University, Teaching fellow for Professor Prajit Dutta
Spring 2015	Microeconomics Policy and Analysis, Columbia University, Teaching fellow for Professor Kitty Chan
Fall 2014	Microeconomics Policy and Analysis, Columbia University, Teaching fellow for Professor Suresh Naidu

Professional Activities

Referee	Demography; Journal of Environmental Economics and Management; Management Science
Presentations	2020: EAERE Annual Conference (remote); Environmental Protection and Sustainability Forum, Graz, Austria (cancelled due to COVID-19); IAERE Conference, Brescia, Italy; 2019: Aarhus University, Department of Economics and Business Economics, Aarhus, Denmark; Sustainable Development Research Symposium, New York, NY; 2018: Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change, Graz, Austria; Austrian Economic Association (NOeG) Winter Workshop, Vienna, Austria; International Conference on Sustainable Development, New York, NY; International Workshop on Sand/Dust Storms and Associated Dustfall, Tenerife, Spain; Eastern Economic Association, Boston, MA

Co-organizer Interdisciplinary PhD Workshop in Sustainable Development, Columbia University, 2016

Fellowships

2018 - 2019 Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
2013 - 2018 Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University

Published Works

Sachs, J., Rising, J., **Foreman, T.**, Simmons, J., and Brahm, M. 2015. "The Impacts of Climate Change on Coffee: Trouble Brewing" <http://eicoffee.net/>

Raymond, C., **Foreman, T.**, King, A., Kornhuber, K., Lesk, C., Mora, C., Perkins-Kirkpatrick, S., Russo, S., and Vijverberg, S. 2018. "Projections and hazards of future extreme heat." In *Planning for Climate Change Hazards*. Oxford University Press.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190455811.013.59>

Research Papers

"Climate Change, International Migration, and Interstate Conflict." (with Cristina Cattaneo)

Climate stress may represent both a direct driver of interstate conflicts as well as an indirect driver, through its effect on migration. However, there is little quantitative evidence on whether these three elements are inter-related. This paper uses climate-induced migration in order to examine how migration contributes to interstate conflicts. We exploit differences between aggressor and target countries, as well as the geographic characteristics of the climate shock to identify the effect of migration on interstate disputes. At the same time, the paper studies a possible direct causal link between climate and interstate conflicts. The paper aims to shed light on the little researched mechanisms through which interstate conflicts may arise, namely environmental scarcity and climate induced migration, as well as on where to target interventions to prevent them.

"The Effects of Dust Storms on Economic Development"

Dust storms are a common occurrence for populations residing in semi-arid environments and can result in a variety of immediate and long-term impacts. While previous literature documents many of these short-term effects, such as increases in various respiratory issues (e.g. asthma attacks, suffocation) and increases in traffic accidents (resulting from disrupted transportation networks), this is the first study to use exogenous variation in dust exposure due to long-range transport to study the effects of dust storms on economic activity. I instrument local dust values using dust observed over the Bodélé Depression of the Sahara Desert, the largest dust source in the world. I show that economic growth in West Africa is reduced by 3% per standard deviation increase in dust exposure over 2 years. Agricultural yields decline in the year of impact on average by 2%. The effects found here could be a contributing factor to reduced economic development in West Africa, and indicate that dust storms should be considered an important part of geographic endowments alongside other climate indicators.

"The Effect of Dust Storms on Child Mortality"

While the health impacts of dust have been studied in high-income countries, little is known about the health effects of dust storms in the regions of the world most exposed. In this paper, I study the effects of dust storms on child mortality using reanalysis data on surface-level dust concentrations and household health data from the Demographic and Health Surveys. I use dust observed over the Bodélé Depression in the Sahara Desert - the world's largest dust source - as well as wind speed and direction to estimate the quantity of natural dust exposure. I then use this transported dust to instrument for the dust over the location where the child is born, thus overcoming potential endogenous increases in dust exposure due to economic conditions. I find that a one standard deviation increase in dust exposure at month of birth

decreases the probability a child survives to age 5 by .33 percentage points. This estimate implies that about 10% of all child mortality observed in the sample can be attributed to dust exposure.

“Predicting Areas of Agricultural Expansion”

Climate change is threatening to reduce crop yields in many of the areas currently supporting a large fraction of the world's food production. While there are a range of adaptation measures that could be taken, one of the most natural is to relocate production to areas that may be becoming more suitable to agricultural activity. While this is a crucial element in climate change adaptation, few papers have considered how this will happen and where new crops will be grown, as this requires assumptions about the productivity of land that has not been used for agriculture. Rather than estimating production of new agricultural land directly, this paper uses machine learning methodologies that take advantage of high-resolution crop and climate data in the United States to predict where crop expansions will take place based on past expansion patterns. This process improves upon past attempts to predict crop choices using only logit models, and provides insight into which parcels of land are most likely to experience land use changes.

Works in Progress

Baker, R., Carleton, T., D'Agostino, A., **Foreman, T.**, Greenstone, M., Hsiang, S., Hultgren, A., Jina, A., Kopp, R., Pecenco, M., Rising, J., Rode, A., and Yuan, J. “Human Productivity in a Warmer World: The Impact of Climate Change on the Global Workforce.”

Foreman, T. “Environmental Shocks and the Decision to Migrate.”

Foreman, T. and Lackner, S. “Glass Ceilings for Women in Academia: Evidence from an Elite Association in Economics.”

Languages

English (native)

German (advanced - C1)

French (basic - A2)

Spanish (basic – A1)

March 2021