

# Capucine CHAPEL

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## Research interests

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### Themes:

- Environmental Economics
- Urban & Territorial Economics
- Development Economics

### Methods:

- Microeconometrics
- Impact Evaluation
- Machine Learning
- Spatial Statistics

## Professional Experience

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### Postdoctoral Researcher

October 2023 – Present

*ERUDITE*

*Créteil, France*

- Social Housing Externalities
- Supervisors: Camille REGNIER and Kévin FOURREY

### Doctoral Researcher

October 2020 – September 2023

*CESAER-INRAE Research Unit*

*Dijon, France*

- Economic evaluations of green spaces
- Study dimensions and scales: urban/rural, France/Spain/Europe, Real Estate/Tourism markets
- Methods: Causal inference (Augmented Inverse Probability Weighted, Generalized Propensity Score Matching)

### Research Assistant

June 2020 – August 2020

*Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international* *Clermont-Ferrand, France*

- Literature review on the taxation of renewable natural resources
- Reports for a steering committee and webinars on the challenges of mobilizing internal resources in response to the COVID-19 crisis

### Research Assistant

June 2019 - July 2019

*Laboratoire d'Économie d'Orléans*

*Orléans, France*

- Supervisors: Professor Camelia TURCU and Tais NUNEZ-ROCHA
- Database creation and statistical analysis using STATA
- Report on the impact of environmental regulations on trade
- Organization of the 2019 AFSE Conference

## Research Stay

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### Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

April 2022 – June 2022

*3 months*

*Madrid, Spain*

- Invited by Professor Coro Chasco and the Regional Economics Research Group (ECONRES)
- Economic evaluation of the Natura 2000 network in Castile and León.

## Education

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### Ph.D. in Economics

October 2020 – Present

*University de Bourgogne Franche-Comté*

*Dijon, France*

- Agreenium International Research School doctoral programme
- Title: Three essays on the economic value of recreational amenities provided by green spaces
- Thesis Defense: December 8, 2023
- Supervisors: Julie LE GALLO and Mohamed HILAL
- Jury Members: Florent Sari, Rosella Nicolini, Julien Salanié, Jeanne Dachary-Bernard, Vincent Vigué

## Abstract

This thesis analyses how individuals value the recreational amenities of green spaces, firstly in an urban environment in European (chapter 1) and French (chapter 2) cities, and secondly in rural areas (chapter 3). To meet this objective, we use methods for the economic evaluation of green spaces, drawing on the tools of applied microeconomics. More specifically, while chapter 1 is based on a life satisfaction approach, chapters 2 and 3 rely on a revealed preference approach and an impact assessment using propensity scores weighting.

In chapter 1, we examine the determinants of satisfaction with green spaces among city dwellers in major European cities, using data from the 2019 Flash Eurobarometer and the Urban Atlas, with a view to proposing public policies that are consistent with household preferences. We show that it is the improvement of green spaces rather than the current stock that has an impact on satisfaction, and that the accessibility of green spaces has a greater influence than availability.

Using data on rents from the Observatoires Locaux des Loyers and on parks from OpenStreetMap, chapter 2 examines the impact of different types of urban park size on rental rates in the French private rental market. We find that tenants value urban parks differently depending on their size and the uses they offer. More specifically, in descending order of preference, we show that individuals first value large parks, then small parks and finally medium-sized parks.

Finally, in chapter 3, we estimate the impact of areas protected by the Natura 2000 network on nature-based rural tourism in the Spanish region of "Castilla y León". We estimate the marginal willingness to pay for accommodation in a Natura 2000 area at an average of 1.09 euros per person per night. Thus, the implementation of such an initiative leads to the creation of value in the growing nature-based tourism market.

## Master's in Development Economics

*Université Clermont-Auvergne*

With honors

**September 2018 – June 2020**

*Clermont-Ferrand, France*

## Bachelor's Degree in Economics

*Université Clermont-Auvergne*

Class Valedictorian, with Highest Honors

**September 2015 – June 2018**

*Clermont-Ferrand, France*

## Publications

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### Publication in peer-reviewed journals

- Chapel, C. (2022). Impact of official development assistance projects for renewable energy on electrification in sub-Saharan Africa. *World Development*, 152, 105784.

## Abstract

While the African continent has one of the largest renewable energy potentials in the world, it remains the most deprived region for access to electricity. Official development agencies can provide the funds and experience necessary for the sustainable development of this sector to those countries that suffer from limited domestic resources. We estimate the impact of renewable energy aid projects implemented in 19 sub-Saharan African countries on access to electricity for communities in the region. By combining georeferenced data from aid projects in renewable energy from AidData and survey data from the Afrobarometer, we find, using different propensity score matching methods, a positive and significant impact of these projects on electrification of communities. A comparison with the same sample on non-renewable energy projects shows a better efficiency of eco-friendly projects. However, the effectiveness of these projects is heterogeneous and depends greatly on the type of donor, the location, and the initial level of development. Our results contribute to the scholarly debate on aid effectiveness and provide important political implications. Indeed, they suggest that international donors should favour sending funds for renewable energy projects in countries and regions lacking electrification as these funds contribute to better access to electricity while promoting environmentally friendly technologies.

- “What drives urban green satisfaction in major European cities? A life satisfaction approach” with *Sophie Legras - submitted.*

**Abstract**

This study aims to identify the determinants of satisfaction with green spaces among residents of 72 European cities through a life satisfaction approach using Eurobarometer survey data in 2019 and the green land cover of the Urban Atlas. Using a linear probability model, we regress the satisfaction of city dwellers with regard to green spaces on indicators of availability and accessibility of green spaces at the city level, both in stock and in variation. We show that, in general, satisfaction with green spaces is determined by both their availability and, even more importantly, their accessibility. Furthermore, satisfaction is not driven by the current level of these two indicators, but rather by their improvement since 2012. We also identify heterogeneities in the determinants of satisfaction according to the socio-demographic characteristics of the individuals. In particular, individuals with financial difficulties or children value only the variation of the dimension of accessibility of green spaces whilst individuals who have not always lived in their current city of residence are also impacted by the current stock of accessibility. These results provide an indication of the dimensions to be prioritised for current and future public policies in favour of green spaces.

- “Which size for urban green parks? French evidence of the rental market”

**Abstract**

Faced with increasing urbanisation and climate crisis, the development of green spaces in cities has become a major issue for urban planners. While the need for proximity between housing and green spaces has been widely established in the literature, the question of the size to allocate to the latter is important in a context of strong pressure on land use. We explore this question by taking advantage of databases of the local rent observatories for rental prices and OpenStreetMap for parks. Using a generalised propensity score weighting method, we analyse the preferences between different typologies of park sizes in the private rental market of the largest French urban areas in 2017 and 2018. We show that on average, individuals value large parks more, followed by small and lastly by medium-sized parks. We also detect variations in this hierarchy of preference depending on flat size and its location. These results are of interest not only to property investors looking to increase their rental income, but also to political decision-makers looking to improve existing parks and propose new urban park development projects.

- “Economic evaluation of the benefits of the Natura 2000 network in “Castilla y León” (Spain) through rural tourism” with *Coro Chasco, Mohamed Hilal, Julie Le Gallo and Javier Vélasquez*

**Abstract**

The implementation of biodiversity protection initiatives such as the Natura 2000 network requires a trade-off between the ecosystem services generated and the costs and restrictions encountered by local populations and authorities. Using a doubly robust estimator, we conduct a causal economic evaluation of the impact of these protected areas in the Spanish region of “Castilla y León”. Through the prism of nature-based tourism, we show that individuals positively value the areas inside the Natura 2000 network. Therefore, the implementation of such an initiative leads to the creation of value in the growing nature-based market. These results have important implications for tourism stakeholders, public policies, and managers of Natura 2000 protected areas.

- Do Real Estate Developers Benefit from Preserving Forest and Green Spaces in New Developments?  
*with Jean Dubé, Mohamed Hilal and Julie Le Gallo*

### Abstract

The balance between urban development and forest and green spaces conservation is of paramount importance. Such balance can be present and argued to private developers based on a costs and benefits analysis of preserving forest areas and green spaces in urban spaces. This raises the question of what is the economic value for such amenities. To explore the value of urban amenities, the project proposes an approach based on individual spatial data, i.e. residential transactions. Buildings and transactions are located with a high degree of accuracy, which will be useful in identifying similar/comparable properties and areas for statistical analysis. In particular, this approach will make it possible to identify transactions carried out around "treatment" zones (i.e. close to protected woodland areas) and "control" zones (i.e. at a greater distance from woodland areas) depending on the characteristics of the built environment, but also of individual properties. The methodological approach is to divide the transactions into two distinct groups: i) a first group located in close proximity to the protected woodlands (direct access from the backyard or front yard); and ii) a second group located in close proximity to the protected woodlands but without direct access (one to two blocks away). Cross-comparison of price differences will establish a value effect that varies with the degree of exposure.

### Study Reports

- "Natural Resources and Governance: Between Opportunity and Hindrance to Energy Transition" - in French
- "Energy Transition: The Role of Exchanges with Renewable Energy Pioneering Countries" - in French
- "Early Marriage and Girls' Education in Africa" - in French
- "Environmental Clauses and International Trade" - in French

## Conferences and Seminars

### Conferences

- ADRES Job Market Conference, *ENS Paris-Saclay* *Upcoming : 24-26 January 2024*
- FAERE annual conference, *Montpellier* *September 2023*
- European Regional Science Association Congress, *online* *August 2023*
- Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet (LAGV), *Marseille* *June 2023*
- Journées de Microéconomie Appliquée (JMA), *Strasbourg* *June 2023*
- Journées de Recherche en Sciences Sociales (JRSS), *Clermont-Ferrand* *December 2022v*

### Seminars

- GATE Invited Seminar, *Saint-Etienne* *Upcoming : 30 January 2024*
- EIDER Invited Seminar (UMR TERRITOIRE - INRAE), *Clermont-Ferrand* *October 2023*
- ERUDITE Internal Seminar, *Créteil* *October 2023*
- FAERE Thematic Workshop "Cities & Environment", *Champs-sur-Marne* *June 2023*
- FAERE Doctoral Workshop, *Le Bourget du Lac* *November 2022*
- CESAER Internal Seminar, *Dijon* *October 2022*
- CESAER Internal Seminar, *Dijon* *November 2020*

## Responsibilities

**Co-organizer of internal research seminars**  
*CESAER, UMR 1041*

**October 2020 – November 2021**  
*Dijon, France*

**Member of the organizing committee for AFSE 2019**  
*Laboratoire d'Économie d'Orléans*

**June 2019**  
*Orléans, France*

## Scholarships

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- **2022:** DGEP Doctoral School Mobility Scholarship (€1500)
- **2022:** ERASMUS+ Mobility Scholarship (€1600)
- **2022:** EIR-A Mobility Scholarship (€2500)
- **2020 - 2023:** UBFC Doctoral Scholarship

## Teaching

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### Teaching Assistant

**2024**

*Université Paris-Est Créteil*

*Créteil, France*

- Intertemporal behaviors and choices (27 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 3rd year, in Economics)

### Teaching Assistant

**2021 – 2023**

*Université Bourgogne Franche-Comté*

*Dijon, France*

- Econometrics with R (90 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 3rd year, in Economics): Descriptive statistics, simulations, simple and multiple linear regressions with R.

### Teaching Assistant

**2021 – 2023**

*Institut Agro Dijon*

*Dijon, France*

- Statistics (40 hours in Master 1 Agricultural Engineering): ANOVA and linear regression.

### University Tutor

**2017 – 2019**

*Université Clermont-Auvergne*

*Clermont-Ferrand, France*

- Microeconomics (22 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 2nd year, in Economic and Social Administration): Producer and consumer theory
- Macroeconomics (18 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 1st year, in Economics): Major functions and macroeconomic equilibrium
- Computer Science (24 hours in Bachelor's Degree, 1st year, in Economics): Introduction to the university's digital environment (ENT), Use of word processing and presentation tools

## Other skills and activities

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### Computer Skills

- Programming: R, Stata, Qgis, SQL
- Office and Presentation Software:  $\LaTeX$ , Canva, Open/Libre/Microsoft Office

### Languages

- French : Mother tongue
- English : C1 (TOEIC : 900/990)
- German : A2
- Spanish : A1

### Hobbies

- Board game
- Tennis

## References

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### **Julie LE GALLO, Full professor in Economics**

- Centre d'Économie et de Sociologie appliqués à l'Agriculture et aux Espaces Ruraux (CESAER, UMR 1041)
- Institut Agro Dijon
- Tel : + 33 3 80 77 23 66
- E-mail: julie.le-gallo@agrosupdijon.fr

### **Sophie Legras, Research in Economics**

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- INRAE
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### **Coro CHASCO YRIGOYEN, Full Professor in Economics**

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- E-mail: coro.chasco@uam.es

### **Camille REGNIER, Associate professor in Economics**

- ERUDITE
- Université Paris-Est Créteil
- E-mail: camille.regnier@u-pec.fr