

# CHUNGKIM KIM

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Champaign, IL, USA

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Global Food Security · Health & Nutrition · AI for Humanitarian · Climate Change · International Development · Poverty & Food Security Measurement

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- **Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University** 2026 – Present  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the *Center for Humanitarian Health* United States
- **University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign** 2025  
Ph.D. in Applied Economics (STEM) United States
- **Seoul National University** 2019  
M.Sc. in Agricultural Technology Republic of Korea
- **Handong Global University** 2015  
B.Sc. in Environmental Studies (Cum Laude Graduate) Republic of Korea

## WORKING PAPERS

- “**Hearing the Alarm: Do Donors Follow Institutional Crisis Signals?**” Job Market Paper. [\[Draft\]](#)  
Selected presentation at UNU-WIDER Development Conference (awarded full travel support) · European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) 2025 Congress · Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) 2025 Annual Meeting (Poster)
- “**Hidden Hunger: Global Estimates Systematically Undercount Acute Hunger.**” With Lentz, E., Michelson, H., Baylis, K. *Forthcoming at Nature Food* (2025) . [\[Draft\]](#) | [Replication Code](#)
- “**Inside the Black Box: How Consistent Are Global Food Security Crisis Assessments.**” With Lentz, E., Michelson, H., Baylis, K. *Accepted, Food Policy* . [\[Draft\]](#)
- “**Early-Year Milk Price and Child Stunting in Zambia.**” [\[Draft\]](#) | [Slides](#)  
Presented at AAEA 2022, EAAE 2023, Tata-Cornell 2023.

## PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

- “**Machine Learning for Food Security: Principles for Transparency and Usability.**” Zhou, Y., Lentz, E., Michelson, H., Kim, C., & Baylis, K. (2022). *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy* . [\[DOI\]](#)
- “**Exploring the Association between Agricultural Production Systems and Household Diets in Viet Nam.**” Bandyopadhyay, A., Azzarri, C., Haile, B., Kim, C., et al. (2022). *Food Security* . [\[DOI\]](#)
- “**The Economics of the Soy Kit for Food Entrepreneurs.**” Kim, C. & Goldsmith, P. (2021). *Food and Nutrition Bulletin* . [\[DOI\]](#)
- “**Vietnamese Preferences for Fresh Korean Ginseng.**” Joo, Y., Kim, T., Nguyen, D.K., & Kim, C. (2021). *Korean Journal of Agricultural Economics* . [\[DOI\]](#)

## WORK IN PROGRESS

- “**Systematic Review of AI and Statistical Models for Humanitarian Action.**” With Melissande, M. (European Commission – Joint Research Centre, EC-JRC).
- “**Acute Food Insecurity Data and Modelling.**” With Ronco, M. et al. (collaboration with EC-JRC).
- “**Multidimensional Food Security Indicators: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa.**” With Baylis, K., Lentz, E., Michelson, H. Presented at AAEA 2022 Track Session.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), IPC Global Support Unit** Feb 2024 – Present  
Rome, Italy / Remote  
*Data Scientist & Modelling Specialist*
  - Predictive modelling · Multi-Source Data Integration · AI Model Evaluation
  - Prototype development: News-based risk monitoring tool
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), IPC Global Support Unit** Oct 2022 – Aug 2023  
Rome, Italy / Remote  
*Food Security Analyst*
  - IPC Accuracy Study · Descriptive and inferential analytics
- **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** Sep 2023 – Jan 2024  
Rome, Italy / Remote  
*Impact Assessment Specialist*
  - IFAD11/12 dataset harmonization · 10+ countries · Geospatial and socio-economic indicators
  - Create automated data pipelines · climate adaptation program evaluation (Nepal)
- **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)** Oct 2018 – Jan 2019  
Washington, DC  
*Research Intern*
  - International Dietary Data Expansion (INDDEX) project, Vietnam
  - Co-authored research on integrated farming systems and household diets
- **Canaan Farmer School** Jan 2015 – Dec 2017  
Korea & Tanzania  
*Project and Training Officer*
  - Capacity building · Agriculture · Resilience · Microfinance
  - Grant management · Cooperative development · Community development projects

## POLICY WORK & TECHNICAL PROJECTS

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- **Optimizing Classification Thresholds for Food Security Indicators** 2025  
FAO-IPC GSU  
*Technical Project*
  - Threshold optimization · Household survey harmonization · Cross-country concordance
- **News Media Analytics for Risk Monitoring** 2025  
FAO-IPC GSU & Kickstart AI (Netherlands)  
*Policy Tool*
  - News Monitoring using NLP / LLM · Sentiment analysis · Topic modelling · IPC risk integration [[View Slides](#)]
- **IPC Accuracy Study: Internal Consistency of AFI & AMN Analyses** 2024  
FAO-IPC GSU  
*Technical Report*
  - Food Security Measurement Study [[View Report](#)]
- **Production, Consumption, and Food Security in Viet Nam** 2021  
IFPRI, FAO, Tufts Univ.  
*Diagnostic Report*
  - Agricultural production · Diets · Food security linkages [[View Report](#)]
- **Mapping of Poultry Hotspots in Tanzania** 2018  
IFPRI  
*Technical Note*
  - Geospatial analysis · Market hotspots · Poultry [[View Report](#)]

## TEACHING

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- **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** Fall 2024  
Champaign, IL  
*Teaching Assistant, ACE 251: The World Food Economy*
  - Delivered weekly in-class lectures: global food production, consumption, and trade · problems of hunger and population · the role of agricultural development, trade, and aid in relieving hunger
- **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** Fall 2022, Fall 2023  
Champaign, IL  
*Teaching Assistant, ACE 435: Global Agribusiness Management*
  - Assisted course coordination and grading · Global agribusiness strategy and operations · covered topics (international business environment · global agriculture supply chain)
- **Teaching Material Development** 2025  
Online Repository  
*Data Science: Tools & Projects*
  - Practical examples & reusable code for quantitative policy analysis
  - Methods: Python, Machine Learning, NLP, Geospatial Analysis, Causal Inference, LLMs, Dashboard Development
  - Repository link: [Data-Science-for-Policy-Research](#)

## METHODS & TOOLS (APPLIED IN RESEARCH)

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**Programming/Data/GIS/Version Control:** Python · R · Stata · SQL · QGIS · Tableau · Git · GitHub

**Applied Microeconometrics:** DiD · event study · RD · IV · matching (*causal identification and policy evaluation*)

**Machine Learning:** random forest · gradient boosting · LASSO · basic deep learning (*risk monitoring and prediction*)

**NLP & LLMs:** BERTopic · named entity recognition · sentiment analysis · spaCy · Hugging Face · prompt engineering (*news analytics and document classification*)

**Geospatial:** geostatistical analysis · spatial econometrics · hotspot and cluster analysis (*mapping and spatial analysis*)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting (2025) · Center on Food Security and the Environment (Stanford) Seminar (2025) · European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) Conference (2023) · Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition (TCI) Conference (2023) · American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting (2022)

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

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**Professional Activities and Affiliations:** Vice President, Graduate Student Organization, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, UIUC (2020–2021) · Member, IPC Advanced Technologies and Artificial Intelligence (ATARI) Working Group (global initiative to enhance food security early warning leveraging AI tools) · Member, American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) (2022, 2025) · Member, European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) (2023, 2025)

**Public Engagement:** Community engagement and humanitarian outreach, Champaign, Illinois (2020–2025): Led donation drives and mobilized resources for programs such as the Shoebox Ministry, Soup Kitchen, and Ready Program · Organized emergency fundraising activities, including humanitarian relief efforts for UNHCR, engaging and coordinating over 100 members of the Korean community; focused on social responsibility, community solidarity, and inclusive action during times of need.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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ACE Doctoral Fellowship, University of Illinois (Spring, Fall 2025) · Full Travel Grant, UNU–WIDER Development Conference (2025) · Travel Grant, American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting (2025) · Departmental Travel Grant, ACE, University of Illinois (2025 Spring, 2025 Fall, 2022) · Banaba House Scholarship, Korea (2022–2024) · Cum Laude Graduate, Handong Global University (2015)

## LANGUAGES

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Korean (Native) · English (Fluent) · Chinese (Intermediate)

## REFERENCES

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1. **Prof. Kathy Baylis**

Professor and Vice-Chair  
Department of Geography  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Email: [baylis@ucsb.edu](mailto:baylis@ucsb.edu)  
[Profile Page](#)

2. **Prof. Erin Lentz**

Associate Professor  
Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs  
University of Texas, Austin  
Email: [erinclentz@utexas.edu](mailto:erinclentz@utexas.edu)  
[Profile Page](#)

3. **Prof. Hope Michelson**

Professor  
Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics  
University of Illinois, Urbana–Champaign  
Email: [hopecm@illinois.edu](mailto:hopecm@illinois.edu)  
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