CHUNGMANN KIM

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in linkedin | github | Personal Website | Google Scholar

Champaign, IL, USA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

EDUCATION

- **University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign** *Expected May 2026*
  Ph.D. Candidate in Applied Economics (STEM) United States
- **Seoul National University** *June 2019*
  M.Sc. in Agricultural Technology Republic of Korea
- **Handong Global University** *Feb 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. *Revise & Resubmit at Nature Food* . [Draft | Replication Code]

"**Inside the Black Box: How Consistent Are Global Food Security Crisis Assessments**." With Lentz, E., Michelson, H., Baylis, K. *Revise & Resubmit at 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

- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), IPC Global Support Unit** *Feb 2024 – Present*
  Data Scientist & Modelling Specialist Rome, Italy / Remote
  - 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*
  Food Security Analyst Rome, Italy / Remote

◦ IPC Accuracy Study · Descriptive and inferential analytics

- **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** *Sep 2023 – Jan 2024*
Impact Assessment Specialist Rome, Italy / Remote
  ◦ 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*
Research Intern Washington, DC
  ◦ International Dietary Data Expansion (INDDEX) project, Vietnam
  ◦ Co-authored research on integrated farming systems and household diets

- **Canaan Farmer School** *Jan 2015 – Dec 2017*
Project and Training Officer Korea & Tanzania
  ◦ Capacity building · Agriculture · Resilience · Microfinance
  ◦ Grant management · Cooperative development · Community development projects

POLICY WORK & TECHNICAL PROJECTS

- **Optimizing Classification Thresholds for Food Security Indicators** *2025*
Technical Project FAO–IPC GSU
  ◦ Threshold optimization · Household survey harmonization · Cross-country concordance

- **News Media Analytics for Risk Monitoring** *2025*
Policy Tool FAO–IPC GSU & Kickstart AI (Netherland)
  ◦ News Monitoring using NLP / LLM · Sentiment analysis · Topic modelling · IPC risk integration [View Slides]

- **IPC Accuracy Study: Internal Consistency of AFI & AMN Analyses** *2024*
Technical Report FAO–IPC GSU
  ◦ Food Security Measurement Study [View Report]

- **Production, Consumption, and Food Security in Viet Nam** *2021*
Diagnostic Report IFPRI, FAO, Tufts Univ.
  ◦ Agricultural production · Diets · Food security linkages [View Report]

- **Mapping of Poultry Hotspots in Tanzania** *2018*
Technical Note IFPRI
  ◦ Geospatial analysis · Market hotspots · Poultry [View Report]

TEACHING

- **University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign** *Fall 2024*
Teaching Assistant, ACE 251: The World Food Economy Champaign, IL
  ◦ 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*
Teaching Assistant, ACE 435: Global Agribusiness Management Champaign, IL
  ◦ Assisted course coordination and grading · Global agribusiness strategy and operations · covered topics (international business environment · global agriculture suppy chain)

- **Teaching Material Development** *2025*
Data Science: Tools & Projects Online Repository
  ◦ 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)

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

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

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

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

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

References

1. **Prof. Kathy Baylis**
   Professor and Vice-Chair
   Department of Geography
   University of California, Santa Barbara
   Email: 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
   Profile Page

3. **Prof. Hope Michelson**
   Professor
   Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
   University of Illinois, Urbana–Champaign
   Email: hopecm@illinois.edu
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