Daye (Daniela) Kwon

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Education

Ph.D. in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics

(Expected) Spring 2023

Michigan State University (MSU), East Lansing, Michigan

- Committee: Dr. Nicole Mason-Wardell (Chair), Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, Dr. Thomas Reardon, Dr. Melinda Smale

M.A. in Economics May 2018

University of Missouri (MU), Columbia, Missouri

Master course completed in Economics

July 2016

SungKyunKwan University (SKKU), Seoul, South Korea

B.A. in Economics

August 2014

SungKyunKwan University (SKKU), Seoul, South Korea

Research Interest

Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Food Security, Agri-food Value Chains

Research in Progress

"How do Input Subsidy Programs affect Smallholder Households' Dietary Diversity? Evidence from Zambia" (with R.J. Myers and N.M. Mason)

I examine the impact of input subsidies on smallholder farm households' production diversification, market sales from own production, and dietary diversity. I unpack and explore two main pathways for how Zambia's Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP) may influence household dietary diversity: (i) diversifying production for own consumption; and (ii) marketing agricultural surplus to earn cash income. I use two waves of nationally representative household panel survey (Rural Agricultural Livelihood Survey, RALS) and apply fixed effects instrumental variable regression to address farmers' endogenous selection into FISP. I find that receiving subsidized fertilizer through FISP improves own-farm production diversity. However, such positive association is not shown nationwide but is driven by a region that has favorable agro-ecological conditions for crop production. On the other hand, I find no evidence that subsidized fertilizer adds to the value of sales from own agricultural production. Overall, FISP fertilizer is found to have a negative association with household dietary diversity. This may be due to weak or even negative connection between production diversity and consumption diversity in rural Zambia.

"Market Channel and Heterogeneous Storage Behavior to Multiple Shocks: The Case of Nigerian Maize Traders" (with S. Liverpool-Tasie and T. Reardon)

The impact of multiple shocks – climate, spoilage, and conflict shocks – on maize traders' storage behaviors is explored. I use a unique Nigerian maize trader survey and extend a triple-hurdle model to allow an initial stage of traders' market channel choice. Different types of market channels are likely to have different standards on the quality of maize they buy, hence maize traders may adjust their storage behaviors according to their market channel choice. I compare to what extent each shock affects traders' maize storage decision and damage control decisions on stored maize and how the extent varies by traders' market channel choice between modern and traditional customers. I find that market channel choice plays an important role in shaping traders' storage behaviors. Traders selling to modern customers such as industrial food and feed mills are differently affected by climate-, spoilage-, and conflict-induced shocks from traders selling to more traditional customers.

"Risk and Sourcing Diversification of Nigerian Maize Traders" (with S. Liverpool-Tasie and T. Reardon)

I explore the relationship between climate- and conflict-induced risks and traders' supplier diversification decision exploiting a unique Nigerian maize trader survey. Supply uncertainty is a major source of risk in maize supply chains and can be caused by various factors such as disruption in maize production or transportation system and inconsistent quality of maize. For traders, diversifying suppliers or using multiple channels of sourcing is a way to mitigate the effects of risks and uncertainties in supply. I distinguish between (i) risks disrupting the production of maize and (ii) risks affecting the transaction costs in sourcing and marketing maize and examine how such risks differently affect traders' supplier portfolio choice.

Other Work

Kwon, D., R.J. Myers, N.M. Mason, and P. Samboko. 2019. "Can Maize Price Stabilization Reduce Malnutrition and Save Lives? The Case of the Zambia Food Reserve Agency" Policy Research Brief 107, Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy (FSP), Michigan State University.

Kwon, D., and Y.H. Kim. 2015. "Welfare effects of foreign aids policy coordination among asymmetric donor countries." Procedia Economics and Finance, 30, pp.455-467.

Professional Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, MSU

Fall 2018 - Present

- Conducted model simulation, data cleaning and empirical analysis, and systematic literature review
- Drafted papers and a policy brief

Dept. of Economics, SKKU

Fall 2014 - Spring 2016

- Conducted model simulation, drafting papers and reports, and organizing department workshops

Quality Controller

Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI), Lusaka, Zambia

May - July 2019

- Assisted in survey questionnaire review, enumerator training and examination, and data collection in Central and Lusaka Province during the 2019 Rural Agricultural Livelihoods Survey (RALS)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Principles of Microeconomics, Dept. of Economics, MU

Fall 2016 - Spring 2018

- Held office hours, reviewed exams, and graded exams and assignments

International Trade, Dept. of Economics, SKKU

Fall 2014

- Held office hours, led discussion sessions, and graded exams and assignments

Graduate Grading Assistant

Spring 2022

Decision-making in the Agri-Food System, Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, MSU

- Graded exams and assignments

Selected Presentations

"How do Input Subsidy Programs affect Smallholder Households' Dietary Diversity? Evidence from Zambia", 2022 AAEA Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, August 2022

"How do Input Subsidy Programs affect Smallholder Households' Dietary Diversity? Evidence from Zambia", Graduate Research Symposium, MSU, East Lansing, MI, March 2022

"Welfare Effects of Foreign Aid Policy Coordination among Asymmetric Donor Countries", Economics and Finance Conference, International Institute of Social and Economic Sciences, Rome, Italy, April 2015

Awards and Fellowships

Graduate Research Assistantship, Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, MSU

Fall 2018 - Present

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Dept. of Economics, MU

Fall 2016 - Spring 2018

Outstanding Student Representative Scholarship, Dept. of Economics, SKKU

Fall 2013, Spring 2014

Dean's List, Dept. of Economics, SKKU

Fall 2013

National Grant, Korea Student Aid Foundation

Spring 2013 - Spring 2014

Academic Excellence Scholarship, Dept. of Economics, SKKU

Fall 2010, Fall 2011

Service

Brown Bag Seminar Committee, Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, MSU

Spring 2022

Programming Skills

STATA, R, Matlab, Mathematica, Gauss (basic), and LaTex

References

Dr. Nicole Mason-Wardell

Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics

Michigan State University Email: masonn@msu.edu Phone: 517-432-4446

Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie

Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics

Michigan State University Email: lliverp@msu.edu Phone: 517-432-5418

Dr. Thomas Reardon

Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics

Michigan State University Email: reardon@msu.edu

Dr. Melinda Smale

Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics

Michigan State University Email: msmale@msu.edu Phone: 703-231-8492