

JONATHAN VIVAS ARAGON
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480 Wilson Rd , Natural Resource Building
East Lansing, MI - USA

I. Education

Ph.D. Candidate, Michigan State University (2021 – 2026)
Specialization in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems East Lansing, USA
Graduate Certificate in Environmental and Social Systems Modeling
Community Sustainability and Environmental Science and Policy
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
College of Social Science

MSc. in Agriculture, National Chung Hsing University (2018-2020)
Track Agricultural Economics and Rural Development Taichung, Taiwan
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

B.A in Applied Economics , Universidad Centroamericana (2010-2014)
Minor in Territorial Economic Development Managua, Nicaragua
College of Business and Economic Science

II. Publications

Gordon, E., Hargreaves-Méndez, M., Smith, A., Gosnell, H., Hodbod, J., Himes, J., Mathisonslee, M., Pitts, N., **Vivas, J.** (2025) Relational values in regenerative agriculture: a systematic review and checklist for transformative definitions. (*Journal of Human Values, Accepted for Publication*)

Vivas, J., & Hodbod, J. (2024). Exploring the relationship between regenerative grazing and Ranchers' wellbeing. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 108, 103267.

Vivas, J., Kim, M. K., Takagi, C., & Kirimi, L. (2023). Adopting African indigenous vegetables: A dynamic panel analysis of smallholders in Kenya. *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 48(1), 14-30.

Vivas, J. (2021). Determinants of farmers' participation in sales channels in Nicaragua: plantain case study. *International Journal of Agriculture Innovation, Technology and Globalisation*, 2(1), 85-96.

Stanley, P., Kuhl, A., Rowntree, J., Maciel, I., Cotrufo, M., Goodwin, D., Hodbod, J., Anderson, M., Scasta, J., Branecky, M., Brokus, S., Clement, R., DeLay, N., Derner, J., MathisonSlee, M., Mitchell, R., Zhang, Y., Asher, J., Gao, F., Manning, D., O'Neil, G., Paustian, K., Pallickara, S., Raven, M., Sacramento, J., Collela, F., Congio, G., Dong, Z., Gordon, E., Gosnell, H., Guber, A., Kearney, S., Lupi, F., Matin, A., Patterson, A., Peirce, E., Likins, J., Gergini, T., Nimlos, N., Smith, A., **Vivas, J.**, (n.d) Merging Rigor and Relevance in Grazingland Research: A Comprehensive Social-Ecological Monitoring Approach. (*Under Review at Agricultural Systems, submitted May, 2025*)

Graucob, C., Carranza, K., Hodbod, J., Lembi, R., Spett, E., Rowen, E., Quinlan, A., **Vivas, J.**, (n.d) Assessing Assessments: How resilience assessment tools map onto the 7 Principles of Resilience (*Under Review at Ecology and Society, Feb 2025*)

- Hirata, V., Quiñones, R., **Vivas**, J., Guillaume, J., Iwanaga, T., Kwakkel, J., Quinlan, A., Rocha, J., Crpin, A., Dakos, V., Donges, J., Lade, S. (n.d). Integrating Diversity and Agency into Social-Ecological Resilience. (*Under Review at Ecology and Society, Dec, 2024*) (preprint available at: https://osf.io/preprints/osf/2g3jp_v1).
- Baerwalde, C., & **Vivas**, J., (2025). Strengthening resilience: Understanding stressors in cow-calf production. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/strengthening-resilience-understanding-stressors-in-cow-calf-production> (extension article)
- Vivas**, J., & Orach, K., (2024). Beyond The Toolbox: The challenges of mastering mixed methods in SES. <https://pecs-science.org/beyond-the-toolbox-the-challenge-of-mastering-mixed-methods-in-ses/> (extension article)
- Vivas**, J., (2024). Beyond the land: How regenerative grazing improves farmer wellbeing. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/beyond-the-land-how-regenerative-grazing-improves-farmer-wellbeing> (extension article)

III. Research Experience

- Metrics, Management, and Monitoring: An Investigation of Rangeland and Pasture Soil Health and its Drivers – Producer and Wellbeing Resilience Module 2021-2026
- Values and adoption in regenerative grazing practices and associated wellbeing outcomes for cow-calf producers 2021-2024
- Strategic research partnerships on Regenerative Grazing for Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Conservation in Costa Rica. 2023
- Linking biodiversity conservation, green production, and local mutual trust in a SEPL(S) 2019
- Adoption of Smart Agriculture Technologies Among Organic Farmers in Taiwan 2019
- Rural Development Plan for El Rosario Community, Nicaragua 2014
- Plantain Value Chain of Tisma Community, Nicaragua 2013

IV. Teaching experience

Teaching Assistant

- 6131 Introduction to Econometrics. National Chung Hsing University. (Spring 2020)
- 3001 World Food Problem. National Chung Hsing University. (Fall 2019)
- 2045 Principles of Economics. National Chung Hsing University. (Spring 2019)
- Economic Regulation. Universidad CentroAmericana. (Spring 2014)

Guest Lectures

- MC111 Identity and Community: *Livestock Systems and Sustainability*. James Madison College of Public Affairs. Michigan State University. November 12, 2024.
- CSUS 215 International Development and Sustainability. Topic: *Introduction to Sustainable Development*. Department of Community Sustainability. Michigan State University. October 3, 2024.
- CSUS 215 International Development and Sustainability. Topic: *Economic Growth, Inequality and Poverty*. Department of Community Sustainability. Michigan State University. October 1, 2024.
- CSUS 824 Sustainable Development. Topic: *Social-Ecological Resilience*. Department of Community Sustainability. Michigan State University. April 10, 2024.

- MC498 Senior seminar in Climate Change and Policy. Topic: *Climate Change and Agricultural Systems*. James Madison College of Public Affairs. Michigan State University. March 21 & 28, 2024.
- CSUS 215 International Development and Sustainability. Topic: *Introduction to Sustainable Development*. Department of Community Sustainability. Michigan State University. February 15, 2024.
- CSUS 215 International Development and Sustainability. Topic: *Introduction to Sustainable Development*. Department of Community Sustainability. Michigan State University. October 3, 2022.
- CSUS 301 Community Engagement for Sustainability. Topic: *What is Change?* Department of Community Sustainability. Michigan State University. March 24, 2022.

V. Additional Training

- Workshop – Food Security Policy: The example of Piracicaba. The University of Sao Pablo, The University of Montpellier and the University of Pretoria. Sao Pablo, Brasil Nov 04-08, 2024.
- Workshop - Obstacles to food systems transformation: the enhancement of diversity and intercultural perceptions: The example of Montpellier. The University of Montpellier and the University of Pretoria. Montpellier, France March 12-16, 2024.
- Workshop - Modeling and Measuring Resilience. Resilience Alliance. Stockholm, Sweden February 07-10, 2023.
- Workshop - Resilience assessment and social-ecological system methods. Resilience Alliance. Online August 22-26, 2022.
- Ecological Outcomes Verification Short-Term Monitoring Training. Michigan State University. Michigan, United States May 25-27, 2022.
- Workshop - Strengthening the theoretical basis of resilience in practice. Resilience Alliance. Online. April 4-5, 2022.
- Southeast Asia International Joint-Research and Training Program on Sustainable Development. National Tsing Hua University. Hsinchu, Taiwan Nov 29- Dec 05, 2020.

VI. Conferences and Invited Presentations

- Vivas J. (2024, September 17). Invited speaker for the talk “Wellbeing and Public Policy” [Online]. Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute. Bogota, Colombia.
- Vivas, J., MathisonSlee, M., Dong, Z., Hodbod, J., Raven, M., Mackendree. (2024). Transformative Approaches in Agriculture: Developing a Multidimensional Sustainability Assessment for Regenerative Grazing for Grazing-Based Beef Production Systems. Paper presentation for PECS-III: Pathway to Sustainability conference. Montreal, Canada.
- Vivas., J. (2024, March 19) Invited panelist for the panel “Pooling collective intelligence: a disruptive imperative for transition, transformation, change, and revolution a mixed panel of leading scientists and policymakers exploring the future looking PCI possibilities” The Montpellier Global Days 2024: Pooling Collective Intelligence for Action. CGIAR & The University of Montpellier. France
- Vivas, J., MathisonSlee, M., Dong, Z., Hodbod, J., Raven, M., Mackendree., (2024). A Holistic Sustainability Assessment for Grazing-Based Beef Production Systems in the North Central United States. Paper presentation for the International Association for Society & Natural Resources (IASNAR) Conference. Online.

- Vivas, J. (2023) Regenerative Grazing for Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Conservation in Costa Rica. Presentation for the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) Graduate Student Conference. Michigan, USA
- Vivas, J., & Hodbod, J. (2023). Social Well-being and the Pathways to the Adoption of Regenerative Grazing. Paper presentation for the International Association for Society & Natural Resources (IASNAR) Conference. Maine, USA
- Vivas, J., Takagi, C., Kirimi, L., & Kim, Man-Keun. (2022) Adopting African Indigenous Vegetables: A Dynamic Panel Analysis of Smallholder Farmers in Kenya. Paper presentation for the Sustainability & Development Conference at the University of Michigan. Michigan, USA
- Vivas, J., Takagi, C., Kirimi, L., & Kim, Man-Keun. (2020). Adopting African Indigenous Vegetables: A Dynamic Panel Analysis of Smallholder Farmers in Kenya. Poster presentation for Agricultural & Applied Economics Association-AAEA-Annual Meeting.

VII. Fellowships, Scholarships and Awards

- Malcolm and Ann Kerr Award for Excellence in Scholarship Endowed Award. 2024-2025.
Department of Community Sustainability at Michigan State University.
- Feed-Care-Protect Global Collaborative PhD Platform. University of Montpellier and 2024
the University of Pretoria.
- George and Nancy Axinn International Scholarship. Department of Community 2023
Sustainability at Michigan State University.
- Strategic Partnership Funds Award.Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies 2023
(CLACS) at Michigan State University. 2023
- Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Teaching Fellowship Program. James Madison College of 2023
Public Affairs at Michigan State University. 2023
- Graduate Student Research Fellowship. Center for Latin American and Caribbean 2022
Studies at Michigan State University. 2022
- C.S. Mott Predoctoral Fellowship in Sustainable Agriculture. College of Agriculture and 2021
Natural Resources at Michigan State University.

VIII. Professional Experience

- Assistant for the Department of Business and Marketing. Universidad Catolica Redemptories Mater. Nicaragua. (2015-2016).
- Data Analyst for the Department of Monitoring and Evaluation. Zamora-Teran Foundation (INGO). Nicaragua. (2014)

IX. Service and Leadership

- Reviewer for the Journal of Rural Studies, and New Agenda: South African Journal of Social and Economic Policy.
- Co-lead of Resilience and Rangeland working group for the Society for Social-Ecological Systems (2025-2027)

- Co-chair of the Academic Research Policy Subcommittee for Michigan State University Committee on Graduate Studies (August 2024 – July 2025)
- University Council of Graduate Students Representative at the Department of Community Sustainability Graduate Student Organization (GSO) (August 2024 – July 2025)
- Co-coordinator of the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) at the Department of Community Sustainability (August 2023 – July 2024)
- Graduate Affairs & Curriculum Committee liaison at the Department of Community Graduate Student Organization (GSO) (August 2022 – July 2023)

X. Languages and Other Skills

Spanish: native speaker

English: IBT 114/120

Chinese Mandarin: TOCFL Band A Level 2

Software: R, Python, Stella, STATA, SPSS, QGIS

XI. References

Maria Claudia Lopez, Ph.D

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Associate Professor

Department of Community Sustainability

Michigan State University

Jennifer Hodbod, Ph.D

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Associate Professor

Sustainability Research Institute

University of Leeds