



## Upcoming Seminars

### Monday, 28.6.2021

#### Departmental Seminar

13.30-14.30  
Virtual seminar room

Xavier Gine, World Bank  
"Autonomy and Specificity in Agricultural Technology  
Adoption: Evidence from Mexico"  
(Host: Stefan Klonner)

### Wednesday, 30.6.2021

#### Internal Seminar

12.15-13.15  
Virtual seminar room

Rajesh Ramachandran  
"The Environmental Costs of Culture: Evidence from  
World Diets"

## Abstracts

### Departmental Seminar

Xavier Gine

"Autonomy and Specificity in Agricultural Technology Adoption:  
Evidence from Mexico"\*

We explore heterogeneity in soil quality, lack of knowledge and autonomy as explanations for the low adoption of improved agricultural practices using a randomized field experiment that combined localized soil analyses, tailored input recommendations, extension services and an in-kind grant. We find that while neither the degree of recommendation specificity (plot versus cluster level) nor the extent of autonomy (defined as the freedom of choice in spending the in-kind grant) had any effect on adoption during the intervention, farmers with autonomy had substantially higher adoption of improved practices two years after the intervention ended.

\*with Carolina Corral, Aprajit Mahajan and Enrique Seira

## Internal Seminar

Rajesh Ramachandran

"The Environmental Costs of Culture: Evidence from World Diets"

Anthropologists have documented persistent variation in food preferences across social groups. My paper asks whether such food cultures impose externalities as proxied by the contribution to the emission of global greenhouse gases? I analyze changes in the evolution of global diets for the period 1961-2011 to quantify per capita contribution to the emission of global greenhouse gases. Analyzing diet composition shows strong regional variation in the contribution of animal protein to total calorie and protein intake. Cross-country panel regressions do not show a strong relationship between share of animal protein and health outcomes. Preliminary results show changes in global diets could play an important role in reducing the extent of global greenhouse emissions.

## Vitual Talks

Christoph Becker presented the paper *Reverse Bayesianism: Revising Beliefs in Light of Unforeseen Events* (with Tigran Melkonyan, Eugenio Proto, Andis Sofianos and Stefan T. Trautmann) at the Experimental Finance Conference, June 17. [[Paper](#)]

## Miscellaneous

### Junior Research Group on Macroeconomic Expectations

Junior Professor Joep Lustenhouwer has received funding from the Hans Böckler Foundation (Hans-Böckler-Stiftung) for a junior research group with three PhD students for the duration of three years. The topic of the junior research group is "Expectation Formation in Macroeconomics and its Implications for Monetary and Fiscal Policy". The PhD students will analyze expectations survey data, conduct laboratory experiment and build macroeconomic models to advance the understanding of macroeconomic expectations and give policy recommendations. The funding includes scholarships and traveling budgets for the PhD students as well as funds to organize workshops. More information on Joep's research can be found [here](#).

Editorial deadline for issue 15/2021 of the newsletter:  
Wednesday, 30.6. 2021, 12 p.m.  
[newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de)