

Abdoulaye Cisse

[personal website](#) || cisse@berkeley.edu || 207 Giannini Hall, Berkeley, CA, 94720 || (510) 216-9146

EDUCATION	University of California - Berkeley PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics	Expected June 2025
	University of California - Berkeley MSc in Agricultural and Resource Economics	2021
	Stanford University B.A. in Economics, with Honors, and a minor in Mathematics	2012 - 2016
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Graduate Student Researcher Professors Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet	2020 - 2023
	Research Assistant Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies - Stanford University	2014 - 2015
	Research Assistant Department of Economics - Stanford University	2014
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Senior Investment Banking Analyst Bank of America Merrill Lynch, New York, NY / Dubai, UAE	2016 - 2019
	Consultant Dalberg Advisors	2021
TEACHING IN USA	Intermediate Microeconomics with Application to Sustainability GSI for Professor Xiangyi Meng	Spring 2024
	Introductory Applied Econometrics GSI for Professor Aprajit Mahajan <i>Winner: Outstanding GSI (TA) Award</i>	Fall 2023
	Introduction to Environmental Economics and Policy GSI for Professor Maximilian Auffhammer	Fall 2022
	Intermediate Microeconomics with Application to Sustainability GSI for Professor Jeffrey Perloff	Spring 2022
	Development Economics Instructor of Record	Summer 2022
	Intermediate Microeconomics with Application to Sustainability GSI for Professor Jeffrey Perloff	Spring 2022
	Masters of Development Practice - Economics Bootcamp Instructor of Record	Summer 2021
TEACHING IN SENEGAL	Financial Economics in English Instructor of Record - Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Senegal	Summer 2023
	Financial Economics in English Instructor of Record - Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Senegal	Summer 2022
	Introduction to Non-Parametric Econometrics Instructor of Record - Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Senegal	Summer 2022
	Introduction to Econometrics Instructor of Record - Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Senegal	Summer 2021
	Agricultural Economics in English Instructor of Record - Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Senegal	Summer 2021
REFERENCES	Dr. Ethan Ligon, UC Berkeley Agricultural & Resource Economics ligon@berkeley.edu +1-510-859-3266	
	Dr. Meredith Lynn Fowlie, UC Berkeley Agricultural & Resource Economics fowlie@berkeley.edu +1-510-285-7722	
	Dr. Severin Borenstein, UC Berkeley Haas School of Business severinborenstein@berkeley.edu +1-925-998-5600	

WORKING
PAPERS

1. [The Value of Electricity Reliability: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Senegal \(Job Market Paper\)](#)
Presented at: LSE Energy and Environment Camp (2024); Pacific Development Conference (2024); Columbia University Interdisciplinary Workshop in Sustainable Development (2024), GARESC (2024), Energy Camp (2024), LSE Environment Week (2024), STEG Early Career Workshop (2024)
Abstract: Utility companies in low-income countries invest heavily in expanding access to grid electricity. Yet, recent studies document a low willingness-to-pay (WTP) for grid electricity in low-income countries. This paper provides new evidence on the importance of grid reliability in increasing WTP for grid electricity. I study large-scale reliability improvement projects in Senegal's electricity supply network, with high-frequency geocoded data on outages, customer-level bills on the universe of electricity users, and rich geocoded data on economic activities of households and firms. First, I estimate the causal effect of improved reliability on consumer behavior through a difference-in-differences approach that leverages the variation in the timing of reliability projects. I find that the projects reduced outage duration by 40%, increased electricity consumption by 8%, and led to greater appliance ownership, a reallocation of time toward labor, and lower exit rates. Second, I estimate a random-coefficient discrete choice model of grid connection and appliance usage, and find that (i) WTP for an additional hour of electricity is \$0.40 during peak hours and \$0.10 during off-peak hours on average, and (ii) the reliability projects raise WTP by \$0.05 on average. These findings suggest that reliability improvements can significantly increase the value of grid electricity, even in contexts where baseline reliability and WTP for grid electricity are low.
2. [How to Fund Unemployment Insurance with Informality and False Claims: Evidence from Senegal](#) - with Abdoulaye Ndiaye, Alessandro Dell'Acqua, Kyle Herkenhoff, and Ahmadou A. Mbaye
[NBER WP] [VoxDev Issue] [Brookings Paper] [Accepted at *Journal of Monetary Economics*]
3. [Irrigation Infrastructure and Satellite-Measured Land Use Impacts: Evidence from the Senegal River Valley](#) - with Alain de Janvry, Joel Ferguson, Samba Mbaye, Marco Gonzalez-Navarro, Elisabeth Sadoulet, and Mame Mor Anta Syll
[Revise and Resubmit at *Journal of Development Economics*]
4. [Conserving Wildlife through Demand Reduction and Supply Alternatives: Two Experiments in Restaurants in Kinshasa](#) - with Gabriel Englander and Daniel J. Ingram
[AEA RCT Registry] [Revise and Resubmit at *People and Nature*]
5. [Understanding Value Chain Structure and Functionality: The Domestic Onion Value Chain in Senegal](#) - with Alain de Janvry, Elisabeth Sadoulet, Mame Mor Anta Syll and Carly Trachtman
[Submitted]

IN PROGRESS

1. Firm and Household Inertia: Evidence from the Electricity Market in Senegal - with Djibril Ndiaye
2. Theft Behavior in Sub-Saharan Africa: Evidence from the Electricity Market in Senegal
3. Privilège Exorbitant? The Developmental Effects of the CFA Franc - with Joel Ferguson and Oliver Kim

OTHER
WRITING

1. [A Tale of Sustainable Energy Transition under New Fossil Fuel Discoveries: The Case of Senegal](#) - with Mamadou Simina Dramé and Serigne Abdoul Aziz Niang
2. [Income Shocks, Child Fostering and Education in Senegal](#) - [Undergraduate Honors Thesis]

AWARDS

2023	CEGA Development Economics Challenge	\$10,000
2023	CEPR STEG	\$20,000
2023	Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics	\$40,000
2023	JPAL KCAI Grant	\$40,000

	2023	ARE Data Grant	\$2,000
	2022	PEDL Exploratory Grant	\$43,593
	2022	Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics	\$14,700
	2022	ARE Travel Grant	\$3,000
	2021	ARE Summer Grant	\$2,000
	2021-2023	Initiative on Equity in Energy and Environmental Economics	\$17,500
	2019-2021	UC Berkeley Graduate Fellowship	\$80,000
	2016	Stanford University Award of Excellence	
SERVICE	2020-2024	Graduate Applications International Network (GAIN)	Member of Leadership Team
	2021-2023	Initiative on Equity in Energy and Environmental Economics × 4	Mentor
	2022-2023	Berkeley Economist for Equity	Tutor
	2023	ARE Admissions Committee	Member
SKILLS	Proficient: R, Stata Competent: Python, QGIS, ArcGIS		
LANGUAGES	Proficient: Wolof, French, English		
OTHER	Nationality: Senegalese		