

# sarah meier | curriculum vitae

Department of Management, Technology, and Economics  
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## research interests

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I am an applied environmental economist with a background in climate sciences. My research sits at the intersection of these fields, with a focus on natural hazards, land-use, and biodiversity. I address policy-relevant questions using large-scale environmental data, satellite imagery, and causal inference methods.

## employment

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<b>ETH Zurich, SNSF Ambizione Fellow</b> <i>Department of Management, Technology, and Economics</i>	<b>Zurich (CH)</b> <i>Jan 2026 – present</i>
<b>University of Exeter, Postdoctoral Research Fellow</b> <i>Dragon Capital Research Programme on Biodiversity Economics</i>	<b>Exeter (UK)</b> <i>Oct 2023 – Dec 2025</i>
<b>University of Birmingham, Research Fellow</b> <i>PhD in Environmental Economics: "Essays on the Economics of Wildfires"</i> Examined by Dr. Sefi Roth and Prof. David Maddison (awarded with no corrections)	<b>Birmingham (UK)</b> <i>Sep 2020 – Sep 2023</i>

## education

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<b>Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research</b> <i>Master of Science in Climate Sciences w. Specification in Economics (6 6)</i>	<b>Bern (CH)</b> <i>Feb 2019 – Jul 2020</i>
<b>University of Bern</b> <i>Bachelor of Science in Economics (5.13 6)</i>	<b>Bern (CH)</b> <i>Sep 2015 – Feb 2019</i>
<b>Bern University of the Arts</b> <i>Master of Arts in Music, Classical Trumpet (5.65 6)</i>	<b>Bern (CH)</b> <i>Sep 2011 – Jun 2013</i>

## publications

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- Kelley, D. I. et al. (2025), State of Wildfires 2024–2025. *Earth System Science Data*. 17(10), 5377–5488.
- Meier, S., Strobl, E. & Elliott, R.J.R. (2024) The impact of wildfire smoke exposure on excess mortality and later-life socioeconomic outcomes: The Great Fire of 1910. *Cliometrica*. 1–64.
- Jones, M. W. et al. (2024), State of Wildfires 2023–2024. *Earth System Science Data*. 16(8), 3601–3685.
- Meier, S., Elliott, R.J.R. & Strobl, E. (2023) The regional economic impact of wildfires: Evidence from Southern Europe. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. 118, 102787.
- Meier, S., Strobl, E., Elliott, R.J.R., & Kettridge, N. (2023) Cross-country risk quantification of extreme wildfires in Mediterranean Europe. *Risk Analysis*, 43(9), 1745–1762.

## working papers

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- Meier, S., Balmford, B., Faccioli, M., & Groom, B. (2024) Public and expert preferences for biodiversity metrics and the implications for shadow pricing. (*R & R at JEEM*)
- Meier, S. & Strobl, E. (2025) The impact of wildfire smoke on local avian biodiversity. (*R & R at JEEM*)

Groom, B. et al. (2026) Bringing the economics of biodiversity into policy and decision-making: A target and cost-based approach to pricing biodiversity. (*R & R at Nature Sustainability*)

## selected work in progress

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- o Forest fragmentation and zoonotic diseases (with Neha Deopa)
- o Wildfire Smoke and Adaptation: Out-Migration from California (with Christopher Knittel, and Benjamin Krebs)
- o Forest conservation policy, additionality, and socio-environmental implications (with Ben Balmford and Ville Inkinen)
- o Forecasting additionality in dynamic forests (with Ville Inkinen, Ben Balmford, Zdeněk Plesěk, Charles Palmer, Diana Weinhold, Lykke Andersen, Fabiana Argandoña, Sabrina Eisenbarth and Ben Groom)

## awards, grants & fellowships

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### Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF): Ambizione Fellowship (PZ001\_232901)

*"Policy decisions in connected systems: Forest loss, biodiversity and human well-being"*

(CHF 720,000)

Sep 2025

### British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant (SRG2425\251222)

*"Forest fragmentation and the burden of zoonotic diseases"* (£10,000)

Jun 2025

### Economic Seed Funding

University of Exeter (£800)

Jan/Jun 2024

### Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Fellow in ITN

University of Birmingham, School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences

Jul 2020 - Sep 2023

### 2020 Oeschger Young Scientist's Prize

for achieving the second-highest GPA in the Master's program

of the Graduate School of Climate Sciences at the University of Bern

2021

## conferences & invited presentations

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2026: LSE Workshop for Early Career Women in Economic Geography and Spatial Economics, Paris Environmental Economics Workshop, Warwick Women in Environmental Economics Workshop, CESifo Junior Workshop on Energy and Climate Economics, CESifo Area Conference on energy and Climate Economics

2025: Congress of the Latin American and the Caribbean Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (LAERE), EAERE, Royal Economic Society Annual Conference, 26<sup>th</sup> BioEcon Conference, NERC/ESRC Economics of Biodiversity Conference, LSE Environment Week, Heartland Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop at Illinois

2024: NERC/ESRC Economics of Biodiversity Conference, MIT Climate Change Adaptation in Response to Wildfires Workshop (invited), AERE, European Urban Economics Association, LAGV Marseille, EAERE, Data-Intensive Research Conference NDIRA, UCSB Occasional Workshop in Environmental and Resource Economics, Swiss Workshop on Environmental Resource and Energy Economics, University of Birmingham Seminar "Quantitative Methods for Finance" by the School of Mathematics & the Royal Statistical Society (invited)

2023: EAERE-ETH Winter School on Natural Resources and Development in Resource-rich Countries, Envecon23, VUA Big Data and Economics Research Network: Workshop on Urban and Environmental Challenges, EAERE

2022: 15<sup>th</sup> RGS Doctoral Conference in Economics, 13<sup>th</sup> Columbia Interdisciplinary PhD Workshop in

Sustainable Development, Cambridge Land Economy Early Career Researcher's Conference, EGU General Assembly, Fire & Climate Conference, LSE Shifting Landscapes

2021: 12<sup>th</sup> Columbia Interdisciplinary Workshop in Sustainable Development, 16<sup>th</sup> International Wildland Fire Safety Summit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oxford meeting on Environmental Social Sciences: Challenges and Solutions for Sustainable Development

## further details

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**Statistical Software:** Python, R, STATA

**Research Tools:**  $\LaTeX$ , ArcGIS, Git/GitHub, Google Earth Engine, RMarkdown, Java (data scraping)

**Peer Reviewing:** Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Environmental and Resource Economics, Nature Communications, Economics of Disasters and Climate Change, Fire Ecology

**Editorial Roles:** SI Environmental and Resource Economics

**Languages:** German (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Italian (basic), Spanish (basic)

## references

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**Prof. Robert J.R. Elliott**

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University of Birmingham

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**Prof. Eric Strobl**

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University of Bern

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**Prof. Ben Groom**

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**Prof. Sefi Roth**

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London School of Economics and Political Science

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