

CURRICULUM VITAE

DR. GUNTHER BENSCH

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020 - present	RWI, Researcher, Research Division “Climate Change and Development”
2008 - present	RWI, Researcher, Research Division “Environment and Resources”
2/2007 - 7/2008	RWI, Student assistant, Collaboration in consulting and research projects at Research Division “Environment and Resources”
4/2007 - 7/2007	Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Rwanda, Intern, Baseline and impact survey for a micro hydro project
7/2006 - 8/2006	National University Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique, University teaching position, eight week course “Desenvolvimento Sustentável - Optimização Dinâmica Aplicada” (“Sustainable Development - Applied Dynamic Optimization”)
10/2002 - 1/2003	Ministry of the Environment and Health, Hamburg, Germany, Intern
8/2002 - 9/2002	Institute for Integrated Production Hanover, Germany, Student assistant, Consulting project on logistics monitoring for component suppliers in the automotive industry
Consultancy	Partner ecol GbR (2013-present); FMO (2015-18), GIZ (2007-22), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands (2010-16), RVO (2014-18), SECO (2017), UNIDO (2011), World Vision (2011)
Field research	Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania

EDUCATION

2008 - 2013	Dr.rer.oec. (Ph.D. in Economics) at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany; Title: “Empirical Insights on Energy Access and its Poverty Impacts in Sub-Saharan Africa” (summa cum laude), Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Christoph M. Schmidt
2003 - 2008	Studies in Economics at Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms University Bonn, Germany (Diplom- Volkswirt); Thesis: “Pros and Cons of Unbundling Transmission Grids in the Electricity Industry”, Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Martin Hellwig
2004 - 2007	Studies in Political Sciences, Cultural Sciences, Constitutional, Social and Economic History at Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms University Bonn, Germany
2005 - 2006	Studies in Economics at New University of Lisbon, Portugal
2002 - 2003	Studies in Business Sciences at the Distance Teaching University Hagen, Germany

Articles in refereed Journals

Lukuyu, J., G. Bensch, T. Conlon, A. Patel, V. Modi and J. Taneja (2022), Diesel GenSat: using satellite data to detect diesel-powered irrigation for guiding electrification in Ethiopia. *e-Energy '22: Proceedings of the Thirteenth ACM International Conference on Future Energy Systems*, 325-337.

Rose, J., G. Bensch, A. Munyehirwe and J. Peters (2022), The Forgotten Coal: Charcoal Demand in Sub-Saharan Africa. Special Issue on “The Future of Coal in the Global South”. *World Development Perspectives* 25: 100401.

Bensch, G., J. Kluge and J. Stöterau (2021), The Market-Based Dissemination of Energy-Access Technologies as a Business Model for Rural Entrepreneurs: Evidence from Kenya. *Resource and Energy Economics* 66: 101248.

Bensch, G., M. Jeuland and J. Peters (2021), Efficient Biomass Cooking in Africa for Climate Change Mitigation and Development. *One Earth* 4 (6): 879-890.

Bensch, G. and J. Peters (2020), One-Off Subsidies and Long-Run Adoption – Experimental Evidence on Improved Cooking Stoves in Senegal. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 102 (1): 72-90.

Andor, M.A., G. Bensch, K.M. Fels and N. Kneppel (2020), Per Stups zum Energiesparen? Eine Meta-Analyse zu den kausalen Effekten von verhaltensökonomischen Interventionen auf den Energieverbrauch von privaten Haushalten. *Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik* 20 (4): 352-382.

Bensch, G. (2019), The Effects of Market-Based Reforms on Access to Electricity in Developing Countries: A Systematic Review. *Journal of Development Effectiveness* 11 (2): 165-188.

Jaiswal, S., and G. Bensch (2019), A Methodological Framework to address Gaps in the Evidence on Infrastructure Impacts: The Case of an Indian Railway Project Evaluation. *Journal of Economic Methodology* 26 (1): 32-44.

Bensch, G., M. Grimm, M. Huppertz, J. Langbein and J. Peters (2018), Are Promotion Programs Needed to Establish Off-Grid Solar Energy Markets? Evidence from Rural Burkina Faso. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews* 90: 1060-1068.

Bensch, G., J. Peters and M. Sievert (2017), The lighting transition in rural Africa – From kerosene to battery-powered LED and the emerging disposal problem. *Energy for Sustainable Development* 39: 13-20.

Bensch, G. and J. Peters (2017), Enablers of Strong Cookstove Sales through a Purchase Offer Approach in Rural Senegal – An Explorative Analysis. *Boiling Point* 69, 6-9.

Bensch, G., M. Grimm and J. Peters (2015), Why Do Households Forego High Returns from Technology Adoption – Evidence from Improved Cook Stoves in Burkina Faso. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 116: 187-205.

Bensch, G. and J. Peters (2015), The Intensive Margin of Technology Adoption – Experimental Evidence on Improved Cooking Stoves in Rural Senegal. *Journal of Health Economics* 42: 44-63.

Bensch, G. and J. Peters (2013), Alleviating Deforestation Pressures? Impacts of Improved Stove Dissemination on Charcoal Consumption in Urban Senegal. *Land Economics* 89 (4): 676-698.

Bensch, G., J. Peters and M. Sievert (2013), Fear of the Dark? – How Access to Electric Lighting Affects Security Attitudes and Nighttime Activities in Rural Senegal. *Journal of Rural and Community Development* 8 (1): 1-19.

Bensch, G., J. Peters and C. M. Schmidt (2012), Impact Evaluation of Productive Use – An Implementation Guide-line for Electrification Projects. *Energy Policy* 40 (1): 186-195.

Bensch, G., J. Kluge and J. Peters (2011), Impacts of Rural Electrification in Rwanda. *Journal of Development Effectiveness* 3 (4): 567-588.

Discussion Papers (selected)

Lenz, L., G. Bensch, R. Chartier, M. Kane, J. Peters, and M. Jeuland (2022), Releasing the killer from the kitchen? Ventilation and air pollution from biomass cooking. *Ruhr Economic Papers* #967.

Jaiswal, S., G. Bensch, A. Navalkar and T. Jayaraman (2022), The Socio-Economic and Environmental Impact of a Large Infrastructure Project: The Case of the Konkan Railway in India. *Ruhr Economic Papers* #936.

Yegbemey, R.N., G. Bensch and C. Vance (2021), Weather Information for Smallholders: Evidence from a Pilot Field Experiment in Benin. *Ruhr Economic Papers* #930.

Bensch, G., J. Peters and C. Vance (2021), Development Effects of Electrification in Brazil – A Comment on Lipscomb et al. (2013). *USAEE Working Paper* #529.

Bensch, G., G. Gotz and J. Peters (2020), Effects of Rural Electrification on Employment: A Comment on Dinkelman (2011). *Ruhr Economic Papers* #840.

Bensch, G. (2013), Inside the Metrics – An Empirical Comparison of Energy Poverty Indices for Sub-Saharan African Countries. *Ruhr Economic Papers* #464. RWI.

Papers/Work in Progress

Bensch, G., and M. Grimm, Understanding Behavioral Constraints of Technology Uptake at the Base of the Pyramid.

Andor, M., G. Bensch and K. Fels, What is the effect of behavioural interventions on residential energy consumption? A Meta-Analysis.

Articles in other Journals

Bensch, G. (2014), Tracking the Energy Poor – Empirical Insights on Energy Poverty Measurement Approaches. *International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) Energy Forum* First Quarter 2014: 21-24.

Monographs

Bensch, G., M. Kreibaum, T. Mbegalo, J. Peters and N. Wagner (2017), The Status of Energy Access in Three Regions of Tanzania: Baseline report for an urban grid upgrading and rural extension project. *RWI Materialien* 111. Essen: RWI.

Bensch, G., M. Grimm, J. Langbein and J. Peters (2015), Impacts of Access to Solar Energy on Rural Households. An Evaluation of a Netherlands Supported Programme in Burkina Faso. *RWI Materialien* 95. Essen: RWI.

Bensch, G. and J. Peters (2010), Socio-economic Impacts of Rural Electrification in Rwanda – An Ex-ante Assessment of GTZ Activities. *RWI Materialien* 60. Essen: RWI.

Bensch, G., J. Peters, and L. Schraml (2010), Energy Usage and Socio-economic Conditions in Mozambique. *RWI Materialien* 56. Essen: RWI.

Contributions to Books

Bensch, G., J. Peters and C. M. Schmidt (2013), Impact Monitoring and Evaluation of Productive Electricity Use – An Implementation Guide for Project Managers. In: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (ed.), *Productive Use of Energy – PRODUSE - Measuring Impacts of Electrification on Small and Micro-Enterprises in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Eschborn: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. 119-144.

Projektberichte (selected)

Bensch, G., W. Cornelissen, J. Peters, N. Wagner, J. Reichert, and V. Stepanikova (2019), Electrifying Rural Tanzania. A Grid Extension and Reliability Improvement Intervention. Bericht im Auftrag der Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO).

RWI (2016), Employment and Income Effects of Improved Cook Stove and Pico-Solar Interventions. *RWI Projektberichte*.

ecol and rebel group (2014), Independent Evaluation of Energizing Development (EnDev) Partnership Program. Bericht im Auftrag des EnDev Governing Board.

Neelsen, S., J. Peters and G. Bensch (2011), Baseline Report on the GEF project Renewable Energy Based Electricity Generation for Isolated Mini-Grids, Zambia – Shiwang'andu Area Mini-Hydro Project Component. Bericht im Auftrag der United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Bensch, G. and J. Peters (2008), PSP Hydro – Private Sector Participation in Micro-hydro Power Supply for Rural Development, Rwanda. Baseline Study Report. Bericht im Auftrag der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH.

PROJECTS (SELECTED)

- 2019 – 2022 “Price formation on the futures market and the physical market for cocoa“ commissioned by Federal German Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Project partner: Jacobs University Bremen
- 2019 – 2022 “Electricity demand forecasting in agriculture – harvesting the synergies of machine learning and survey data for electrification planning in Ethiopia” commissioned by UK Aid. Project partner: Universität Massachusetts Amherst, Ethiopian Policy Studies Institute (PSI).
- 2017 – 2021 “Improved cookstoves in rural Senegal – health effects and the missing market” commissioned by International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Deutschen Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). Project partner: Duke University, USA, Ministère de l'énergie et du développement des énergies renouvelables (MEDER) du Sénégal, RT International, Université Gaston Berger, Senegal, and World Bank; World Health Organization (WHO).
- 2016 - 2019 “The socioeconomic and environmental impact of Konkan Railways” commissioned by International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie); Principal Investigator.
- 2017 “Meta-Analysis of the causal effects of behavioural interventions on the energy consumption of private households“ commissioned by Ministry for Rural Areas and Consumer Protection Baden-Württemberg; Lead Principal Investigator.
- 2015 - 2016 “The Water-Energy-Food nexus: Global, Nile Basin and local case studies of resource use efficiency” in cooperation with International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Centre for Development Research (ZEF) commissioned by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ); Principal Investigator.
- 2015 – 2016 “Full life-cycle trial periods as a way to stimulate the adoption of more efficient bioenergy technologies in rural Senegal“ in cooperation with Centre for Development Research (ZEF) and commissioned by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ); Lead Principal Investigator.
- 2014 - 2018 “Electrifying rural Tanzania” on behalf of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) in cooperation with Erasmus University Rotterdam and Georg-August University Göttingen; Principal Investigator and Lead Applicant.
- 2014 – 2016 “Rigorous evaluation design for GIZ Morocco – Climate change adaptation” commissioned by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Lead Principal Investigator.
- 2013 - 2016 “The effects of market-based reforms on access to electricity in developing countries: a systematic review of the evidence on effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and mechanisms” commissioned by International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie); Lead Principal Investigator.
- 2014 - 2015 “Improved cookstoves and pico-PV interventions: impacts on employment and income along the value chain” commissioned by Deutschen Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Co- Lead Principal Investigator with Prof. Jochen Kluge.
- 2010 - 2014 “Impact evaluation of energy and development cooperation supported by the Netherlands” in collaboration with International Institute of Social Sciences (ISS), The Hague, commissioned by Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Principal Investigator and Lead Applicant; recognized with the “Best Practice Award 2015“ of the Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth-Netzwerks (PEGNet).

- 2009 – 2011 “Randomised study on the roll-out of improved cookstoves in Senegal” commissioned by Deutschen Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Evaluation unit.
- 2008 - 2012 “Productive Use of Electricity (PRODUSE)” commissioned by World Bank and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Principal Investigator.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Referred Conferences

- 2022 Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA) conference on “Policies for a sustainable rural transformation in Africa”, Accra/ Ghana.
Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists [EAERE], Rimini/ Italy.
- 2018 IZA/World Bank/NJD Conference on Jobs and Development, Bogotá/ Colombia.
Annual Sustainable Energy Transitions Initiative meeting, Durham/ USA.
World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists, Gothenburg/ Sweden.
Annual Congress of the European Economic Association, Cologne/ Germany.
- 2017 MAER-Net (Meta-Analysis of Economics Research Network) Colloquium 2017, Friedrichshafen/ Germany.
International Workshop on “Causal Inference, Program Evaluation, and External Validity”, Luxembourg.
- 2015 Annual Conference of the Verein für Socialpolitik [German Economics Association, VfS], Münster/ Germany.
- 2014 Asian Development Bank-3ie Making Impact Evaluation Matter Conference, Manila/ Philippines.
International Conference of the International Association for Energy Economics [IAEE], New York/ USA.
World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists [WCERE], Istanbul/ Turkey.
- 2013 Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network [PEGNet] Annual Conference, Copenhagen/ Denmark.
- 2012 International Workshop on “Empirical Methods in Energy Economics” [EMEE], Berlin/ Germany.
Nordic Conference in Development Economics, Gothenburg/ Sweden.
- 2011 Ruhr Graduate School [RGS] Doctoral Conference in Economics, Dortmund/ Germany.
Annual International Conference of the VfS Research Committee on Development Economics, Berlin/ Germany.
Annual EAERE Conference, Rome/ Italy.
- 2010 International Conference on Infrastructure Economics and Development, IDEI/ World Bank/ PPIAF/ AFD, Toulouse/ France.
- 2009 IAEE European Conference, Vienna/ Austria.
- 2008 IAEE International Conference, Istanbul/ Turkey.

TEACHING

- 2018 – 2019 Specialization Course in Development Economics” at the Jacobs University Bremen
- 2018 - 2019 “Economic Policy Issues II (Macroeconomics)” at the Jacobs University Bremen
- 2018 Mini Lecture on “Impact Evaluation in Development and Environmental Economics. A Hands-On Introduction” am Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai/ India.
- 2017 - 2018 “Economic Policy Issues I (Microeconomics)” at Jacobs University Bremen (Fall Semester 2017).

- 2016 Course elements of the Certification Course in Climate Change, Ahmedabad/ India.
- 2012 Two-week capacity development workshop on impact evaluation for Mozambican researchers in Chimoio, Mozambique.
- 2011 Two-day workshop on quantitative evaluation at World Vision, Friedrichsdorf/ Germany.
- 2007 Eight-week course “Desenvolvimento Sustentável - Optimização Dinâmica Aplicada” (“Sustainable Development - Applied Dynamic Optimization”) at the National University Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo/ Mozambique.

REFEREEING

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists; The Economic Journal

African Development Review; American Journal of Health Economics; Energy & Buildings; Energy Economics; Energy Journal; Energy for Sustainable Development; Energy Policy; Energy Research & Social Science; Energy Sources, Part B: Economics, Planning, and Policy; Energy, Sustainability and Society; Environment, Development and Sustainability; International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health; Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis; Journal of Commodity Markets; Journal of Development Effectiveness; Journal of Environmental Management; Land; Land Economics; PLOS One; Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews; Resource and Energy Economics; SAGE Open; Sustainability; Sustainable Cities and Society; The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy; World Development; World Development Perspectives; World Review of Science, Technology and Sustainable Development; “Micro Perspectives for Decentralized Energy Supply” Conference in Bangalore (2015); 10th and 11th Annual meeting of the Environment for Development (EfD) initiative in Pucón and Addis Abeba (2016/ 2017); Conference of the Sustainable Energy Transition Initiative (SETI) 2020; 14. RGS Doctoral Conference in Economics 2021; International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie, External Review).

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

German	Native language	French	Fluent
English	Fluent	Spanish	Intermediate
Portuguese	Fluent	Italian	Intermediate