

CURRICULUM VITAE

MAXIMILIANE HANNAH SIEVERT

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: RWI – Leibniz-Institute for Economic Research
Climate & Development Policy
Hohenzollernstraße 1-3
45128 Essen
Germany
Phone: +49 201 81 49-3 23
Fax: +49 201 81 49-2 00
sievert@rwi-essen.de

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 – present	RWI, Co-Head Department “Climate and Development Policy”
2013 – present	ecol – Evaluating Development Cologne, Partner
2016 – present	Research Fellow, Environment for Development, University of Gothenburg
2016 – present	Research Fellow, Sustainable Energy Transitions Initiative, Duke University
2020 – 2025	Member of Steering Committee, Sustainable Energy Transitions Initiative, Duke University
2017 – 2020	RWI, Deputy Head, Research Group “Climate Change in Developing Countries”
2010 – 2017	RWI, Researcher, Research Division “Environment and Resources”
2009 – 2010	ecoprogram GmbH, Consultant, consultancy specialised in environmental and energy markets
2008	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Sunyani/Ghana, Intern, Baseline and impact survey for an electrification intervention (productive energy use)
2006 – 2007	AHK Chile, German-Chilean Chamber of Industry & Commerce, Santiago de Chile, Intern, Division: Environment
2006	Goethe-Institut Salvador, Bahía/Brazil, Intern
2005	InWEnt gGmbH, Cologne/Germany, Intern, Dept. “Sustainable Technologies, Industrial and Urban Development”

EDUCATION

2015	Dr. rer. oec (PhD Economics), Ruhr-Universität Bochum; Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Christoph M. Schmidt; Co-supervisor: Prof. Dr. Michael Grimm; Doctoral thesis: “Rural Electrification and Poverty Reduction. Empirical Insights from Sub-Saharan Africa” (summa cum laude)
2003 – 2009	Studies in “Regional Studies of Latin America“; interdisciplinary study on Economics, Romance Philology and History at University of Cologne, Germany (Diplom-Reg. Wiss.); Thesis: “Productive Energy Use in Micro-Enterprises. Evidence from Ghana”, Prof. Dr. Marc Oliver Bettzüge

2006 Studies in Economics and History at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago de Chile

IN-COUNTRY WORK EXPERIENCE

Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Ghana, Germany, Indonesia, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda

GRANTS

2023-2026	Leibniz Competition, research grant. 999,990 EUR, PI.
2021-2023	J-PAL's King Climate Action Initiative (K-CAI), research grant. 74,000 USD, Co-PI.
2020-2023	International Growth Center (IGC), research grant. 12,000 EUR, Co-PI.
2017-2022	BMBF (Federal Ministry of Research, Germany), research grant, 350,000 EUR, Co-PI.
2017-2021	Energy and Economic Growth (EEG) Applied Research Programme, research grant 110,000 GBP, Co-PI
2016-2020	International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, research grant, 450,000 USD, Co-PI
2012-2019	Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), research grant 450,000 EUR, Co-PI
2013-2017	FMO- Netherlands Development Finance Company, research grant 490,000 EUR, Co-PI

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS, POLICY INTERACTION AND CONSULTANCY

World Bank, World Health Organization, Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), Netherlands Development Bank (FMO), Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, German International Cooperation (GIZ), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), UKAid, MasterCard Foundation, CARE Canada, Habitat International, Government of Senegal, Government of Rwanda, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie).

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in refereed Journals

Munyehirwe, A., J. Ankel-Peters, M. Sievert, E. Bulte, & N. Fiala (2026), Energy Efficiency and Local Rebound Effects: Theory and Experimental Evidence from Rwanda. *World Bank Economic Review* (forthcoming).

Masselus, L., J. Ankel-Peters, G. Gonzalez Sutil, V. Modi, J. Mugenyi, A. Munyehirwe, N. Williams & M. Sievert (2025), Adoption of Electricity in Rural Rwanda 10 Years after Connection. *Nature Communications*, 16, 10942

Ankel-Peters, J., G. Bensch, A. Dabadge, A. Munyehirwe, J. Rose, M. Sievert, E. Rukundo & J. Lay (2025), Tax carbon cautiously for sub-Saharan Africa. *Nature Climate Change*, 15(1), 7–9.

Ankel-Peters, J., G. Bensch, K. Moull, M. Rauschenbach & M. Sievert (2025), Cost-effectiveness of rural energy access strategies. *Energy Policy*, 203, 114633.

Ankel-Peters, J., Bensch, G., Köngeter, A., Rauschenbach, M., & Sievert, M. (2025). Are rural energy access programs pro-poor? Some are, many are not. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 120, 103871.

Jeuland, M., L. Lenz, E. Sills, M. Sievert, M. Serrano-Medrano, R. Ruhinduka, P. Qin, J. Peters & M. Naranjo (2021), Is Energy the Golden Thread? A Systematic Review of the Impacts of Modern and Traditional Energy Use in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews* 135: 110406.

Sievert, M. & J. Steinbuks (2020), Willingness to Pay for Electricity Access in Extreme Poverty: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa. *World Development* 128 (104859).

Grimm, M., L. Lenz, J. Peters & M. Sievert (2020), Demand for Off-Grid Solar Electricity – Experimental Evidence from Rwanda. *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists* 7 (3): 417-454.

Peters, J., M. Sievert and M. Toman (2019), Rural Electrification through Mini-Grids: Challenges ahead. *Energy Policy* 132 : 27-31.

Lenz, L., L. Montenbruck, & M. Sievert (2018), Accidents Caused by Kerosene Lamps – New Evidence from African Household Data. *WIREs Energy and Environment* 7 (4): e293.

Bensch, G., J. Peters, & 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.

Lenz, L., A. Munyehirwe, J. Peters, & M. Sievert (2017), Does Large Scale Infrastructure Investment Alleviate Poverty? Impacts of Rwanda's Electricity Access Roll-Out Program. *World Development* 89: 88-110.

Grimm, M., A. Munyehirwe, J. Peters, & M. Sievert (2017), A First Step up the Energy Ladder? Low Cost Solar Kits and Household's Welfare in Rural Rwanda. *World Bank Economic Review* 31 (3): 631-649.

Peters, J., & M. Sievert (2016), Impacts of Rural Electrification Revisited – The African Context. *Journal of Development Effectiveness* 8 (3): 327-45.

Peters, J., A. Schoofs, & M. Sievert (2016), Preferences over Bank and Family Loans in Rural Rwanda. *Journal of International Development* 28 (4): 623-630.

Peters, J., M. Sievert, & C. Strupat (2015), Impacts of a Micro-Enterprise Clustering Program on Firm Performance in Ghana. *European Journal of Development Research* 27: 99-121.

Bensch, G., J. Peters, & M. Sievert (2013), Fear of the Dark? How access to electric lighting changes attitude and behavior in rural Senegal. *Journal of Rural and Community Development* 8 (1): 1-19.

Recent Discussion Papers & Work in Progress

Sievert, M. J. Ankel-Peters, M. Jeuland, L. Lenz, O. Ndiaye, and F. Usmani (2024), Supply-Side Constraints to Technology Adoption: The Market for Energy-Efficient Cookstoves in Rural Senegal. *Ruhr Economic Papers* #1092. RWI.

Sievert, M. (2024), Rural Electrification and Domestic Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Ruhr Economic Papers* #1078. RWI.

Beber, B., C. Ebert, and M. Sievert (2024), Is Intent to Migrate Irregularly Responsive to Recent German Asylum Policy Adjustments? *Ruhr Economic Papers* #1071. RWI.

Reitmann, A. and M. Sievert (2024), Using Framed Field Experiments to Evaluate Real-World Policy Interventions – A Case Study on Changing Environmental Preferences. *Ruhr Economic Papers* #1072. RWI.

Blog posts

Masselus, L., J. Ankel-Peters, A. Munyehirwe & M. Sievert (2026), Rural electrification a decade on: A dose of reality from Rwanda. *VoxDev*, 05.02.26.

Munyehirwe, A., J. Ankel-Peters, M. Sievert, E. Bulte & N. Fiala (2025) Does subsidizing cleaner cookstoves backfire? Lessons from Rwanda. *VoxDev*, 26.09.25.

Masselus, L., J. Ankel-Peters, G. Gonzalez Sutil, V. Modi, J. Mugenyi, A. Munyehirwe, N. Williams & M. Sievert (2024) The long-term adoption of grid electricity: Evidence from rural Rwanda. *International Growth Centre (IGC) Blog*. 21.10.2024

Peters, J. and M. Sievert (2020), Grid or solar: looking for the best energy solution for the rural poor, *The Conversation*.

Peters, J. and M. Sievert (2018), How electricity changes lives: a Rwandan case study, *The Conversation*.

Contributions to collected volumes

Marz, W., J. Steckel, S. Ayhan, C. Gavard, O. Schenker, M. Sievert, U. Will, and M. Winkler (2022). Capital Markets, Institutions and Distributional Effects: Towards Ambitious Climate Policy in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. *Dialog zur Klimaökonomie*.

Peters, J. and M. Sievert (2015), The Provision of Electricity to Rural Communities through Micro-Hydro Power in Rural Indonesia. *RWI Materialien* 88.

Peters, J., M. Sievert and C. Vance (2013), Firm Performance and Electricity Usage in Small Manufacturing and Service Firms in Ghana. In: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (ed.), *Productive Use of Energy – PRODUSE – Measuring Impacts of Electrification on Small and Micro-Enterprises in SSA*. Eschborn: GIZ. 75-94

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 German Development Economics Conference 2025, Frankfurt.
 XVIII EAAE Congress – Food System Transformation in Challenging Times”, Bonn.
 VfS Annual Conference 2025, Cologne.
 EfD Annual Meeting 2025, Dar-es-Salaam.
- 2024 Centre for the Study of African Economies CSAE 2024, Oxford/ UK
 German Development Economics Conference 2024, Hannover.
 4th CReAM/RWI Workshop on the Economics of Migration, Essen.
 VfS Annual Conference 2024, Berlin.
 Fragile Lives 2024, Berlin.
- 2023 27th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE), Limassol, Cyprus.
- 2022 26th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE), Rimini, Italy.
 German Development Economics Conference 2022, Stuttgart-Hohenheim.
- 2021 Annual Meeting of the Sustainable Energy Transition (SETI), virtual.
- 2020 25th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE), virtual.
 SETI X Women in Environmental Economics for Development Virtual Workshop.
- 2019 Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network (PEGNet) Conference 2019, Bonn/ Germany
 24th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economics, Manchester/ UK.
- 2017 6th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting on Economic Sciences, Lindau/ Germany
 Sustainable Energy Transition Initiative SETI Annual Meeting, Duke University/ USA
 Centre for the Study of African Economies CSAE 2017, Oxford/ UK
- 2016 Environment for Development - 10th Annual meeting, Pucón/ Chile.
- 2015 Annual International Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics (VfS), Kiel/ Germany
 Centre for the Study of African Economies CSAE 2015, Oxford/ UK
- 2014 37th IAEE International Conference, New York/ USA
- 2013 Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network (PEGNet) Conference 2013, Kopenhagen/ Denmark.
 International Association of Energy Economists 2013, Düsseldorf/ Germany.
- 2012 19th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economics, Prague/ Czech Republic.
 12th Workshop of the Student Chapter of the German Section of the International Association for Energy Economics (GEE/IAEE), Düsseldorf/ Germany.

2011 9th Development Dialogue at International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam/ The Netherlands.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2026 International Environmental Economics and International Policy Issues,
Bergische Universität Wuppertal

2025-2026 Debates in Climate Economics, Bergische Universität Wuppertal

2025 International Environmental Economics and International Policy Issues,
Bergische Universität Wuppertal

REFEREEING (SELECTION)

Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF), Dutch Research Council (NWO), Energy Economics, Energy Policy, Energy Research & Social Science, Environment and Development Economics, European Research Council, Fondecyt (Chile), Food Policy, Journal of Development Economics, Nature Communications, Nature Energy, Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), The Energy Journal, World Development

AWARDS

Best Paper award; Green Growth Knowledge Platform (GGKP) in Washington, DC (2017); RWI – Promotionspreis (2016); PEGNet Best Practice Award 2015 (award for effective interaction between research and practice); USAEE/IAEE 2014 Working Paper Best Paper Award; Theodor-Wessels-Preis für herausragende wissenschaftliche Arbeiten zu Themen aus den Bereichen Energiewirtschaft/ Energiepolitik. (2010)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

German	Native language
English	Fluent
Spanish	Fluent
French	Fluent
Portuguese	Intermediate