

Sara Signorelli

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Research Interests: Labor and Migration Economics. Work, Employment and Social Policies.

Current Position

Paris School of Economics

PhD Candidate

Paris, France

Sep. 2017–current

Thesis Title: Analysis of the labor market consequences of technological change and migration flows.

Advisor: Prof. Eric Maurin

Pre-Doctoral Studies

Paris School of Economics

Master in Public Policy and Development (Summa Cum Laude)

Paris, France

Sep. 2016–Sep. 2017

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Master in International Economics (Magna Cum Laude)

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep. 2012–Sep. 2014

University of Geneva

Bachelor in International Relations (Magna Cum Laude)

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep. 2008–Sep. 2011

Professional Experience

International Food Policy Research Institute

Senior Research Assistant

Washington DC, USA

Apr. 2015–Jul. 2016

I conducted econometric analysis of household and community surveys from Sub-Saharan Africa, to produce reports and research papers on poverty, nutrition and climate resilience. I contributed to the monitoring and evaluation (ME) of the USAID-funded project Africa RISING.

The World Bank

Research Assistant

Washington DC, USA

Feb. 2014–Mar. 2015

I joined the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Chief Economist Office to conduct econometric analysis of household surveys, to produce evidence for the ECA region on the evolution of shared prosperity and the socio-economic impacts of aging populations.

Innovations for Poverty Action

Research Intern

Manila, Philippines

Jun. 2013–Aug. 2013

Contributed to the impact evaluation project: “The Impact of Credit-Scoring on SMEs Lending and Performance in the Philippines”.

Teaching Experience

SciencesPo Paris

Introduction to Public Economics, graduate level.

Paris, France

Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Introduction to Econometrics, undergraduate level.

Paris, France

Spring 2018

Research

Work in Progress.....

Labor Market Consequences of Selective Immigration Policy

In recent years Western countries are expressing growing concerns about the regulation of migration flows and many are considering adopting some form of selective immigration policy. This paper analyzes the labor market effects of one of such reforms introduced in France in 2008 with the aim of encouraging the inflow of foreign workers with skills that are scarce among the local labor force. The analysis relies on administrative employer-employee data and it is based on a difference-in-differences approach. Results show that the reform increased the hiring of foreign workers in target occupations without causing any harm to native employment. As a result, the overall stock of labor grew in these jobs. Entry wages are lowered by 4% among natives and by 9% among foreigners, suggesting that these two groups may not be perfect substitutes, even when they are employed for the exact same task. The effects are stronger for the occupations with the most severe lack of native candidates and for those with an average salary largely above the minimum wage, indicating that the reform was successful in attracting candidates with rare skills and relatively high productivity.

Technological and Organizational Change and the Fall of Occupational Mobility

with E. Maurin (PSE)

Since the 1980s the labor markets of most industrialized countries have undergone important structural transformations. Technological change and globalization have transformed the production function of firms and have shifted their labor demand away from easily automatable occupations towards high-skill professions. While a growing number of papers analyzes the impacts of such shifts on the structure of the economy, few are the ones that look at how the careers of workers are affected in the long run. This paper aims to fill this gap by establishing a link between the recent technological and organizational changes and the evolution in the occupational mobility of employees.

Pre-Doctoral Publications.....

A Spatial Analysis of Land Use and Cover Change and Agricultural Performance: Evidence from Northern Ghana

with C. Azzarri (IFPRI), B. Haile (IFPRI), Z. Guo (IFPRI)

Environment and Development Economics (2018 forthcoming)

Welfare effects of weather variability: Multi-country evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa

with C. Azzarri (IFPRI), B. Haile (IFPRI), T. Johnson

PLOS ONE (2018 forthcoming)

Policy Reports.....

Malnutrition and climate patterns in the ASALs of Kenya: A resilience analysis based on a pseudo-panel

with C. Azzarri (IFPRI), C. Roberts. IFPRI Report. 2016.

Golden Aging: Prospects for Healthy, Active and Prosperous Aging in Europe and Central Asia
Contributor. Main authors: M. Bussolo, J. Koettl, E. Sinnott. World Bank Report. 2015.

Shared Prosperity: Paving the Way in Europe and Central Asia

Contributor. Main authors: L. F. Lopez-Calva, M. Bussolo. World Bank Report. 2014.

Conferences and Seminars

- 4th Annual Conference on Public Policy Evaluation (AFSE, DG Trésor). Paris. 2018.
- PSE Labor Chair Internal Seminar. Paris. 2018.
- Annual Conference on Immigration in OECD Countries (OECD). Paris. 2017.
- CSAE Conference on Economic Development in Africa (Oxford University). Oxford. 2016.
- IFPRI brown bag seminar series. Washington DC. 2016.

Honors, Scholarships and Fellowships

- OECD Future of Work Fellowship (2018/2019).
- Doctoral Scholarship awarded by the PSE Labor Chair (2016).
- IFPRI Strategic Innovations Fund (2015).

Languages and Skills

- **IT Skills:** Proficient in: Stata, LATEX, MS Office. Basic ability with: R, SAS, QGIS.
- **Languages:** Italian (native), French (fluent), English (fluent), Spanish (Intermediate), German (basic).

Volunteering and Social

- Class Representative. PSE 2017, IHEID 2013.
- Social Community empowerment project in Pereira - Colombia. Summer 2012.
- President of the student organization AIESEC Geneva. Academic year 2010-2011.
- International teaching project in Wenzhou - China. Summer 2010.