

Luke Sanford

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🌐 <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=hzh7H9gAAAAJ&hl=en>

🐙 [lcsanford.github.io](https://github.com/lcsanford)

Appointments

July 2021 - 📌 **Yale School of Environment** Assistant Professor of Environmental Policy and Governance

Education

- Expected 2021 📌 **University of California San Diego.** Ph.D. International Affairs
Concentrations: Political Methodology, Political Economy of Natural Resources.
- 2017 📌 **Political Science, School of Global Policy and Strategy, UCSD.** M.A.
Focus Areas: International Economics, China
- 2009 📌 **BA Politics, Whitman College.** B.A.
Thesis: China's Olympic Trial: The Environmental Effects of the Beijing Olympic Games

In Progress

Forthcoming 📌 Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Evidence from Deforestation *Accepted at AJPS*

Research Publications

Journal Articles

- 1 📌 **Sanford, L. & Burney, J.** (2015). Cookstoves illustrate the need for a comprehensive carbon market. *Environmental Research Letters*, 10(8), 084026.
<https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/10/8/084026>
- 2 📌 Lautze, J., de Silva, S., Giordano, M. & **Sanford, L.** (2011). Putting the cart before the horse: Water governance and IWRM. *Natural Resources Forum*, 35(1), 1–8.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1477-8947.2010.01339.x>
- 3 📌 Molden, D., Lautze, J., Shah, T., Bin, D., Giordano, M. & **Sanford, L.** (2010). Governing to Grow Enough Food without Enough Water—Second Best Solutions Show the Way. *International Journal of Water Resources Development*, 26(2), 249–263.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/07900621003655643>

Books and Chapters

- 1 📌 Lautze, J., de Silva, S., Giordano, M. & **Sanford, L.** (2014). Water Governance (J. Lautze, Ed.). In J. Lautze (Ed.), *Key concepts in water resource management: A review and critical evaluation*. London ; New York, Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.
- 2 📌 Boelee, E., Atapattu, S., Amede, T. & **Sanford, L.** (2011). *Ecosystems for water and food security* [OCLC: 771993931]. Nairobi, UNEP. March 16, 2018, 📄
http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/Topics/Ecosystems/PDF/Background_Document-Ecosystems_for_Water_and_Food_Security_2011_UNEP-IWMI.pdf

Research

- Research Interests ■ Political Economy, Environment, Natural Resources, Causal Inference, Machine Learning, Remote Sensing, Text as Data.
- Working Papers ■ Discovery of Influential Text in Experiments Using Deep Neural Networks, with Molly Roberts and Kevin Li
- Environmental injustice in California revealed by the COVID-19 economic shutdown, with Richard Bluhm, Pascal Polonik, Kyle S. Hemes, Susanne A. Benz, Morgan Levy, and Jennifer Burney.
- Ongoing Projects ■ Remote Sensing: Measurement and Causal Inference
- The Effects of Land Tenure Security on Agricultural and Environmental Outcomes in Benin: New Evidence from Satellite Data [Polmeth 2019 Best Poster Award, AGU 2018 Student Presenter Award]

Grants and Awards

- 2020 ■ Graduate Division Interdisciplinary Research Award
- 2019 ■ Best Graduate Student Poster, Political Methodology Annual Conference
- Institute of Global Conflict and Cooperation Herb York Dissertation Fellowship (\$25,000)
- 2018 ■ Winner of American Geophysical Union Outstanding Student Presenter Award
- Sage Foundation grant (\$174,702) research assistant.
- 2018–2020 ■ Sanford Lakoff dissertation improvement grant
- 2018 ■ Grad SLAM public speaking semifinalist.
- 2015 ■ Dean of Social Sciences fellowship recipient.
- 2014–2015 ■ Boren Fellow. China.
- 2014 ■ GPS Dean's Fellow
- Robinson Research Fellow
- Doming Liu award for for Wisdom, Exuberance, Warmth, and Leadership.
- 2008 ■ Cross Examination Debate Association National Tournament: 5th place.

Teaching (School of Global Policy and Strategy)

- 2021 ■ Big Data. Ahlquist.
- 2019, 2020 ■ Poli 270: Mathematical & Statistical Foundations. Instructor.
- 2015–2020 ■ Math Skills for Graduate Students. Instructor.
- 2019 ■ Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis. McCord.
- 2018 ■ Advanced GIS and Remote Sensing. Goldblatt.
- 2016–2017 ■ Quantitative Methods 1: Statistics and Probability. Garg.
- Quantitative Methods 2: Regression Analysis. Burney.
- Quantitative Methods 3: Panel Data and Causal Inference. McIntosh.
- 2015–2016 ■ Economic and Social Development of China. Naughton.
- International Politics and Security. Walter.

Conferences

- 2020 ■ “The effects of land tenure security on agricultural and environmental outcomes in Benin: New evidence from satellite data” APSA (talk, submitted panel), Asian Polmeth (talk)

Conferences (continued)

- 2019 ■ “Discovery of Influential Text in Experiments Using Deep Neural Networks” Polmeth (talk), APSA (talk)
- “Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Evidence from Deforestation” MPSA (talk), Institutions and Lawmaking Conference (poster), WPSA (talk)
- “Geospatial synthetic controls for agricultural impact evaluation” Polmeth (poster), Sustainability and Development Conference (talk)
- 2018 ■ “How to property rights affect agricultural productivity?” Paper presented at *American Geophysical Union* Washington DC.
- “Mining Human Decision Making” with Molly Roberts. Paper presented at *Text as Data* University of Washington.
- “Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Troubling Evidence from Deforestation” Paper presented at *Working Group on Africal Political Economy Annual Meeting* UCLA.
- 2017 ■ “Democratization, Elections, and Public Goods: The Troubling Evidence from Deforestation” Poster presented at *American Geophysical Union* New Orleans, LA. Media Coverage: <https://blogs.agu.org/geospace/2018/01/09/elections-may-catalyst-deforestation-new-research-suggests/>
- “Detecting Land-Use Change and On-Farm Investments at the Plot Scale” with Jen Burney and Ran Goldblatt. Poster presented at *American Geophysical Union* New Orleans, LA.
- “Mass Digitization of Chinese Court Decisions” with Molly Roberts, Rachel Stern, Ben Liebman. Paper presented at *American Political Science Association* San Francisco, CA
- “Measuring the Impact of Land Titling on Investment via Satellite” with Jen Burney and Ran Goldblatt. Paper presented at *CEGA Research Retreat* Berkeley, CA
- 2010 ■ “Water Governance in the Middle East North Africa Region: Applying a Multifaceted Benchmarking Approach.” Session: Climate Change and Environmental Conflict. *American Association of Geographers*. Seattle, WA
- “Water Governance Survey Results.” USAID MENA Benchmarking Conference, Amman, Jordan.

Service

- 2019 ■ Graduate student representative on the admissions committee
- Faculty Liaison, UCSD Political Science Graduate Council
- 2018 ■ Co-Chair, UCSD Political Science New Student Orientation
- 2017 ■ Co-Chair, UCSD Political Science Social Events
- Memberships: *American Political Science Association*, *American Economic Association*, *American Geophysical Union*, *Midwest Political Science Association*, *Western Political Science Association*, *AAAS*

Skills

- Languages ■ Native: English. Strong reading, writing and speaking competencies in Mandarin Chinese (HSK6). Conversational Spanish.
- Coding ■ Expert: R, Git/GitHub, ArcGIS . Intermediate: Stata, Python, \LaTeX , JavaScript.

References available upon request.