

# Catherine Guirking

## General Information

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## Current Position

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**Full Professor**, Economic Department, University of Namur

Director of the Center of Research in Economic Development (CRED), University of Namur

President of the Development, Finance and Public Policies Research Institute (DEFIPP), University of Namur

## Education

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**Ph.D.**, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California Davis, USA. Fields of specialization: Development Economics, Microeconometrics, Agricultural Policy. June 2006.

**Master of Science** (Diplôme D'études Approfondies), Agricultural Development, Institut National Agronomique Paris – Grignon (INA P-G), Paris, France. August 2001.

## Publications

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- Guirking, C., J.P. Platteau and Z. Wahhaj, 2025, Behind the Veil of Cultural Persistence: Marriage and Divorce in a Migrant Community, *The Economic Journal*, accepted
- Guirking, C. and Q. Stoeffler, 2025, New economic opportunities and children outcomes: negative effects of artisanal mines on primary education, *World Bank Economic Review*, conditionally accepted
- Baland, J.-M., L. Bequet, C. Guirking and C. Manuel, 2024 "Sharing norm, Household Efficiency and Female demand for Agency in the Philippines", *World Development*, 174
- Stoeffler, Q., M. Carter, C. Guirking and W. Gelade, 2022 "The Spillover Impact of Index Insurance on Agricultural Investment by Cotton Farmers in Burkina Faso", *World Bank Economic Review*, 36(1)
- Guirking, C., G. Aldashev, A. Aldashev, M. Fodor, 2021, "Economic persistence in face of adversity: evidence from Kyrgyz tribes through Soviet times", *The Economic Journal*, 132
- Guirking, C., J. Gross and J.P. Platteau, 2021 "Are women emancipating? Evidence from marriage, divorce and remarriage in rural Northern Burkina Faso", *World Development*, 146
- Gross, J., C. Guirking and J.P. Platteau, 2020 "Buy as you Need: Nutrition and Food Storage Imperfections", *Journal of Development Economics*, 144
- Guirking, C. and J.P. Platteau, 2020, The dynamics of family systems. In J.-M. Baland, F. Bourguignon, J.-P. Platteau, and T. Verdier (Eds.), *The Handbook of Economic Development and Institutions*. Princeton University Press.

- Serfilippi, E, M. Carter, and C. Guirking, 2020 “Certain and Uncertain Utility and Insurance Demand: Results from a Framed Field Experiment in Burkina Faso” *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 180, 731-743
- Baland, J.M., C. Guirking and R. Hartwig, 2019, “Now or later? The Allocation of the Pot and the Insurance Motive in Fixed Roscas”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 140
- Delpierre, M., C. Guirking, and J. P. Platteau, 2019, “Risk as an Impediment to Individualization of Land Tenure”. *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 67(4)
- Gelade, W., C. Guirking, 2018, “The enforcement advantage of external monitoring: Lessons from an experiment with joint-liability groups in Burkina Faso”, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 151(C): 307-325
- Aldashev G., C. Guirking, 2017 “Colonization and changing social structure: Kazakhstan, 1896-1901”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 127: 413-430
- Guirking C., J.P. Platteau, 2017 “Transformation of African Farm Households: a short Survey of Economic Contributions ” *Journal of Demographic Economics* 83(1): 41-50
- Baland, J-M., I. Bonjean, C. Guirking, R. Ziparro, 2016, “The Economic Consequences of Mutual Help in Extended Families”. *Journal of Development Economics*, 123: 38-56.
- Guirking C., G. Aldashev, 2016 “Clans and Ploughs: Traditional Institutions and Production Decisions of Kazakhs under Russian Colonial Settlement” *The Journal of Economic History* 76(1): 76-108.
- Guirking C., J.P. Platteau, T. Goetghebuer, 2015, "Productive Inefficiency in Extended Agricultural Households: Evidence from Mali." *Journal of Development Economics*, 116: 17-27
- Guirking C., J-P. Platteau, 2015, “Transformation of African Farm-cum-Family Structures”, *The Oxford Handbook of Africa and Economics*, Volume 1: Context and Concepts: 59
- Guirking C., J.P. Platteau, 2015, “Transformation of the Family under Rising Land Pressure: A Theoretical Essay” *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 43 112-137.
- Guirking C., J-P. Platteau, 2014, “The Effect of Land Scarcity on Farm Structure: Empirical Evidence from Mali” *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 62(2) 195-238
- Elabed, G., Bellemare, M. F., Carter, M. R., & Guirking, C., 2013, “Managing basis risk with multiscale index insurance”. *Agricultural Economics*, 44 (4-5).
- Aldashev G., C. Guirking, 2012, “Deadly anchor: Gender bias under Russian colonization of Kazakhstan” *Explorations in Economic History*. 49(4):399-422
- Baland J.M, C. Guirking and C. Mali, 2011 “Pretending to be poor: borrowing to escape forced solidarity in credit cooperatives in Cameroon” *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 60 (1).
- Fletschner, D., C. Guirking, S. Boucher, 2010 “Risk, Credit Constraints and Financial Efficiency in Peruvian Agriculture,” *Journal of Development Studies*, 46(6)
- Boucher S., C. Guirking and C. Trivelli, 2009 “Direct Elicitation of Credit Constraints: Conceptual and Practical Issues with an Empirical Application,” *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 57(4).
- Guirking C., 2008 “Understanding the coexistence of formal and informal credit market in Piura, Peru,” *World Development*, 36(8).
- Guirking C. and S. Boucher, 2008 “Risk, Credit Constraints and Productivity in Peruvian Agriculture,” *Agricultural Economics*, 39(3).
- Boucher S., M. Carter and C. Guirking, 2008 “Risk Rationing and Wealth Effects in Credit Markets: Theory and Implications for Agricultural Development,” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 90(2).

- Boucher S. and C. Guirking, 2007, "Wealth, Risk and Sectoral Choice in Rural Credit Markets," *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 89(4).

## Working papers

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- D. Baraka, C. Guirking, 2025 “Cooperation in Polygamous Households. Experimental Evidence from Northern Benin”, revise and resubmit EDCC
- C. Guirking and P. Villar, 2025 “A Mandate to Multiply: The Effects of Pro-Birth Policies on Fertility in Colonial Congo” revise and resubmit EJ
- P. Alvarez Aragon, C. Guirking and P. Villar, 2025 “School Clustering and Religious Competition: Persistence of Educational Inequality in Colonial and Post-Colonial Congo” working paper
- H. Champeaux, C. Guirking, 2025, “The Price of Height: Parental Investments in Daughters and Marriage Payments in sub-Saharan Africa”
- D. Baraka, C. Guirking, 2024, “Gender Inequality in Workload and Nutrition in Agricultural Households – New Insights from Activity Tracker Data in Rural Burkina Faso”
- J.M. Baland, C. Guirking, P. Levebvre and K. Morsink, 2023, Domestic Violence, Divorce and Women Empowerment

## Conference presentations and invited seminars

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- **2025:** Nuremberg University, Germany; Passau University, Germany; Clermont-Ferrand, France; Nijmegen University, Netherlands; Wageningen University, Netherlands; Utrecht University, Netherlands; European Development Economics Network conference, Namur; Paris-Dauphine, France.
- **2024:** Bolzano workshop on historical economics, Italy; ICDE conference, Marseille.
- **2023:** Maastricht UNU-Merit seminar; Bordeaux School of Economics seminar; AFSE conference, Paris; ENS-Lyon Economics seminar;
- **2022:** FAIR development workshop, Bergen, Norway; key-note presentation at the Workshop in Gender and Family Economics, University of Cergy, June 2022; University of Nottingham, CREDIT seminar, oct 2022; NEUDC, Yale University.
- **2021:** Pantheon Sorbonne Sustainable Development Economics Seminar, Paris, France; Key-note presentation at the development economics conference DIAL-GREThA, University of Bordeaux, France; Seminar of the European Society of Historical Demography (online); Seminar, University of Luxembourg (online)
- **2020:** Seminar, The Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland. Seminar, Istanbul Technical University, Turkey. Round Table, Journées de l’Economie 2020, Lyon, France.
- **2019:** Workshop “Economic Development and Institution”, Paris School of Economics, France; Workshop “Economic of Violence against Women, Ifo, Munich, Germany Workshop “Inequality, Poverty and Gender”, University of Namur; Academic Seminar, Aix-Marseille School of Economics, France.
- **2018:** Senior Academic Seminar, Nottingham, UK; Environmental and Natural Resource Conservation Workshop, Montpellier, France; WIDER Development Conference, Helsinki, Finland; World Economic History Conference, Boston, USA
- **2017:** New Economic School CDSDSI International Conference, Moscow, Russia; Macro/microeconomics of Agriculture and Development Workshop (Keynote), Paris School of Economics, France; Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium; Free University of Brussels, Belgium

- **2016:** Workshop on Poverty and Wellbeing, Catholic University Louvain, Belgium; Dyson School Seminar, Cornell University, USA; International Nutrition Seminar, Cornell University, USA; University of California Davis, USA.
- **2015:** Conference: Bringing history back in development economics, New Economics School, Moscow, Russia; Global Development Network Conference, Casablanca, Morocco. International Conference of Agricultural Economists, Milan, Italy.
- **2014:** Greqam, Marseille, France; University of Freiburg, Switzerland.
- **2013:** FERDI workshop on group insurance, Clermont Ferrand, France. Research Seminars: Paris-Dauphine, France, Kent University, UK.
- **2012:** European Development Network (EUDN) conference, Paris, France. BASIS conference on microinsurance, Rome, Italy.
- **2011:** FERDI workshop on group insurance, Clermont Ferrand, France. Research Seminar, INRA Montpellier, France. WIDER Conference on Land Inequality and Conflict, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- **2010:** Louvain School of Economics, Belgium, Conference on the Economics of Microinsurance, Food and Agriculture Organization, Rome, Italy.
- **2009:** Paris School of Economics, Toulouse School of Economics, France.

## Grants

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- **Fond National de la Recherche Scientifique, Research Project Grant**, project : “Impact of colonial policies on population structure and well-being in the long run in the DRC”, 2025, 480000 €.
- **European Research Council, Starting Grant**, project : “African Women”, 2017, 1500000 €.
- **Fond National de la Recherche Scientifique, Research Credit Grant**, project : “Delegation in the household”, 2017, 42745 €.
- **DFID EDI RA4**, project: “Economic role of clans: Linking past and present”, 2017, 32500 €.
- **Banque Nationale de Belgique Grant**, project: “Who decides in the couple? Theoretical and empirical analysis of optimal decision making structure in households”, 2017, 5740 €.
- **Fond National de la Recherche Scientifique, Research Project Grant**, project : “Muslim women in migration”, 2014, 275900 €.
- **Index Insurance Innovation Initiative Grant**, project: “Microinsurance for cotton producers in Mali”, 2011, 102300 \$.
- **No Poor (European Union Funded Project, FP7), Research budget**, project: “Food security in Burkina Faso”, 2012, with Jean-Philippe Patteau, 95000 €.
- **SOS Faim, Project Evaluation Grant** project: “Impact of cereals banks in Burkina Faso”, with Jean-Philippe Patteau, 2010, 62000 €.
- **Banque Nationale de Belgique Grant** project: “Land pressure and family structures”, 2009, 5400 €.
- **Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, Fond Spécial de Recherche Grant**, project: “Private saving in Cameroon : obstacles and strategies”, 2008 and 2009, 84400 €.
- **Agence Française de Développement, Research Grant**, project: “Land, efficiency and equity in the old cotton producing region of Mali”, with Jean-Philippe Patteau, 2007, 60000 €
- **International Dissertation Field Research Fellowship**, Social Science Research Council, 2004, 17800 \$.
- **Travel Grant**, Hemispheric Institute of the Americas, University of California, Davis, 2004.

- **Risk and Development Field Research Grant, Program in Applied Economics**, Social Science Research Council, USA, 2003.
- **Jastro-Shield Award**, College of Agriculture and Environmental Science, University of California, Davis, 2003.

## **Doctoral and post-Doctoral Supervision**

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### **Post Doc**

Juliette Crespin-Boucaud : 2024-2026

Etienne Le Rossignol : 2022-2024

Hugues Champeaux : 2021-2022

Paola Villar : 2018-2020

Renate Hartwig : post-doctoral FNRS fellow “chargée de recherche” 2015-2018

### **PhD in Economics, University of Namur, Belgium (completed)**

Doux Baraka (2024), Jeremie Gross (2019), Elena Serfilippi (2016), Wouter Gelade (2016), Giulia Camilotti (2016), Isabelle Bonjean (2015), Ombeline Debock (2015)

### **External examiner in PhD or post-doctoral degree committee**

Post-doctoral degree (Habilitation à la direction de recherche) : Institut Polytechnique de Paris, 2021, CIRAD-Montpellier, 2021, 2015

PhD: AMSE, 2025, Paris-School of Economics, 2023, 2021, 2019, 2015, 2013; Paris-Dauphine, 2023, 2017; Bordeaux School of Economics, Bordeaux, 2023 (2); University of Clermont-Ferrand, 2023, 2025; University of Caen, 2022; The Graduate Institute, Geneva, 2022; Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne, France, 2022; University of Aix-Marseille, 2017; Free University of Brussels, Belgium, 2017, 2016, 2014; Louvain School of Economics, Belgium, 2014; CIRAD-Montpellier, France, 2020, 2013.

## **Teaching**

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### **Courses currently taught at UNamur:**

Microeconomics: Undergraduate level (45 hours, 220 students)

Growth and development: Undergraduate level (15 hours, 20 students)

World poverty and inequalities: diagnostic and policies: Master level (30 hours, 45 students)

Evaluation of Public Interventions: Master level (30 hours, 20 students)

Microeconomics of Institutions: PhD level (15 hours, 8 students)

## **Professional Activities**

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**Referee:** Review of Economic Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Development Economics, World Bank Economic Review, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, The Journal of Economic History, Economic Development and Cultural Change, World Development, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of African Economies, Agricultural Economics.

**External reviewer of applications:** ANR, France; European Research Council;

**Associate Editor (2014-2019):** American Journal of Agricultural Economics

**External member of recruitment committee:** ENS Lyon (Full Professorship), 2021; U. of Luxembourg (Full Professorship), 2019.

**Member of Scientific Committee “Economic Development and Institutions”:** five-year research program financed by the Department for International Development (DFID), UK, 2015-2020.

**Elected full member of the European Association of Development Economics,** 2012