

**Application for the travel bursary to attend the 98th Annual Conference of
the Agricultural Economics Society that will be held at the University of
Edinburgh, UK**

Name of applicant:

Rachidi Aboudou

Ph.D. student in Agricultural Economics,
University of Parakou, Benin (West Africa)

Rachidi Aboudou
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February 15th, 2024

Dear all,

I am writing to express my interest in the **travel bursary for the AES Annual Conference**. I am in my last year of the Ph.D. program in Agricultural Economics at the University of Parakou (Benin Republic, West Africa). My Ph.D. topic is “**The impact of crisis (COVID-19 and Russia-Ukraine conflict) on global food security in Africa and coping strategies**”. I have a strong background in econometrics and statistical analysis and have substantial experience conducting experiments and research fieldwork in West, East, and Central Africa related to issues of food security in the environment through my employment with, FAO, AfricaRice, and IITA.

I want to attend the 98th Annual Conference of the Agricultural Economics Society that will be held at the University of Edinburgh, UK. I submitted two papers, and they were all accepted. One was accepted for a discussion paper section and titled: “*Ex-post impact of the integrated rice-fish farming system technology on the welfare of small-scale farmers in Liberia: An application of marginal treatment effect model*”. The second was accepted for poster section and titled: “*Double shocks: Implication of COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict for rice value chain, trade and fertilizer use in Africa*”.

The travel bursary for the AES Annual Conference will help me to attend an international conference and this will be beneficial for me in three ways. First, it will help me to strengthen my knowledge and learn from all presentations. Second, it will help me to build a network with other scientists. Third, it will help me to fulfill the requirements in my university to be able to defend my thesis at the end of this year 2024.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



ABOUDOU Rachidi

Curriculum Vitae



Name: ABOUDOU Rachidi,

Agricultural Economist, MSc.

Date of birth: 21 July 1988, Parakou, Benin **Nationality:** Beninese **Sex:** Male

Marital situation: Married **Address:** 01 B.P. 2551, Bouaké 01, Cote d'Ivoire, AfricaRice

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Google Scholar Profile & Skype: ABOUDOU Rachidi

Driving License: ABCDE **Membership:** Genebanks Impact Community of Practice, IAAE, AAAE, AES & EAAE **Google Scholar:** <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=LrSFePQAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

Rachidi Aboudou is from Benin. After receiving his baccalaureate C (Mathematics and Physics) & D (Biology and Mathematics), Bachelor's, he earned a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from the faculty of Agriculture at the University of Parakou in Benin Republic. He also studied for a year at the University of Ilorin in Nigeria. He is currently working at AfricaRice as a research assistant on quantitative impact assessments. He is proficient in statistical software, econometric analysis techniques, ex-ante and ex-post impact assessment methods, quantitative and qualitative research methodologies, and a wide variety of assessment-related software applications. Motivated and career minded agricultural economist with six (6) years of experience on rice value chain analysis, socio-economics study and quantitative impact assessment in SSA. Experienced working in both French and English as well as within a multicultural environment. Trained and experienced in data collection and analysis with relevant software and dissemination platforms such as STATA, SPSS, ArcMap, CSPro, ODK, kobo, ONA and traveling often on short notice for M&E and trainings across Africa. He has extensive experience in scientific paper and report writing. Works within the highest international organization (CGIAR, FAO, CROP Trust, CTA, etc). He is passionate about questions related to impact assessment and plans to continue building his expertise in that area.

I- EDUCATION

○ **Ph.D. student at University of Parakou (Benin), Specialization: Agricultural Economics, 2021-2024**

PhD Topic: Impact of crisis (COVID-19 and Russia-Ukraine conflict) on global food security in Africa and coping strategies

○ **MicroMasters** online in Data, Economics, and Development Policy (DEDP). MIT's Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge USA. **2022-2023 ~ Ongoing**

○ **M.Sc. in Agricultural Economics, ESR, FA/UP** **2013 – 2016**

Faculty of Agriculture at University of Parakou, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, Benin Republic

○ **B.Sc. in Agronomy, FA/UP** **11/2009 – 04/2012**

Faculty of Agriculture at University of Parakou, Department of Agriculture and Production Science, Benin Republic

○ **Baccalaureate series C** (Mathematics and Physics), **July 2011**

○ **Baccalaureate series D** (Biology and Mathematics), **July 2008**


II - FELLOWSHIPS & ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

- **2020 Genebanks Impacts Fellow:** aim to carry out a farmer field experiment on genetic resource valuation in collaboration with the AfricaRice genebank in Côte d'Ivoire and Nicholas Tyack from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.

<https://www.genebanks.org/resources/impacts/community-of-practice-on-genebank-impacts/2020-fellows>

- **Member of** African Association of Impact Assessment specialists, One CGIAR Youth Employee Resource Group (ERG), Genebanks Impact Community of Practice, International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE), African Association of Agricultural Economist (AAAE), Agricultural Economics Society (AES) & European Association of Agricultural Economist (EAAE).

III- EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Position	Tasks
<p>Research Assistant on Quantitative Impact Assessment, AfricaRice, West Africa, Côte d'Ivoire CIPA, TAAT, PEJERIZ, ESA-Parboil, Genebank Impact Fellowship Projects (Since November 2016- 2023), 7 years</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of research and project proposal on impact assessment; ▪ Contributed to the development of impact assessment questionnaires; ▪ Contributed to the development and application of new experimental and non-experimental methods for both ex- post and ex-ante impact assessment; ▪ Designed and run econometric models to assess rice technological and institutional innovation along the rice value chain; ▪ Contributed to data collection and training of NARS and enumerators on use of tablet for data collection; ▪ Collaborated with researchers of other disciplines; write and publish scientific papers and reports; ▪ Set up or revitalize rice value chain regional multi-stakeholder platforms; ▪ Automation of questionnaire on CSPro, Kobo, ODK, survey solution, ONA, etc for data collection in Sub-Saharan Africa' countries; ▪ Monitoring and evaluation of activities and projects in African countries (TAAT, PEJERIZ, DeSIRA, AICCRA projects), ▪ Assist in other research activities assigned by the AfricaRice impact assessment specialist; ▪ Scientific Achievement (Papers, Technical reports): Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=LrSFepQAAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao
<p>REFERENCE: Prof. Dr Jacob A. Yabi, Email: ja_yabi@yahoo.com Dr. Nicholas Tyack, Email: nicholas.tyack@usask.ca</p>	
<p>Extension agent advisor, Direction of Agricultural Development (DDA) in the Ministry of Agriculture in Benin Republic. (January 2015 - December 2016), 2 years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contribution to project proposal development and implementation, ▪ Manage soil fertility participative trials and demonstration plots for cassava, rice and maize yield improvement; ▪ Collect and analyze agronomic and socioeconomic data; ▪ Participate in training and monitoring of women farmer groups; ▪ Link farmers with food crops value chain stakeholders to facilitate inputs supplying and commercialization.
<p>Ministry of Education in Benin republic Teacher, (From 2013-2015)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teacher of secondary school students on Mathematics, Physics and Genetics. ▪ Teacher in Agricultural school of INA Benin, on Genetics, Packaging and standardization.

IV - SELECTED SCIENTIFIC PAPERS AND PUBLICATION

Arouna, A., Tyack, N. and **Aboudou, R.** (2023). Farmer Risk Preferences and Willingness to Pay for African Rice Landrace Seed: An Experimental Choice Analysis. IN: Mishra, A.K., Kumbhakar, S. and Lien, G. (eds.), Managing Risk in

- Arouna, A., Aboudou, R., Yergo, W.G., Ouedraogo, M. and Abdoulaye, T. 2023. E-registration, spatial referencing and tracking of farmers for innovation scaling in Burundi: Technical report. Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire: Africa Rice Center. <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/131770>.
- Arouna, A., Aboudou, R., Yergo, W., Ouedraogo, M. and Abdoulaye, T. 2023. Innovations scaling and assessment: Spatial referencing and tracking of farmers in Democratic Republic of the Congo. Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire: Africa Rice Center. 17 pp. <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/131766>
- Arouna, A., Yergo, W. G., Aboudou, R., Depieu E., Atampugre G., Pegalepo E., and Osei-Adu J. (2023). 2023 Pause and Reflect, and Stakeholders Workshop of “Transformation of Agrifood System in West and Central Africa (TAFS-WCA)” Initiative. AfricaRice, Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire, 42 pages. https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/131504/Report-TAFS-WCA%20Workshop_Accra_.pdf?sequence=1
- Arouna, A., Yergo, W.G., Aboudou, R., Ouedraogo, M., Abdoulaye, T. Value chain and multicrop baseline of TAFS-WCA: Case of Democratic republic of Congo (DRC): Baseline Survey report. Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire: Africa Rice Center. <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/131777>
- Arouna, A., Aboudou, R., Yergo, W.G., Ouedraogo, M., Abdoulaye, T. Scaling of innovations: E-registration and spatial referencing of farmers in Rwanda: Technical report. Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire: Africa Rice Center. <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/131778>
- Tyack, Nicholas, Aminou Arouna, Nana Amoah, and **Rachidi Aboudou**. "Farmer uncertainty and demand for rice varietal identity information: DNA fingerprinting of smallholder rice varieties in Côte d'Ivoire." (2023). <https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/record/335831/files/26985.pdf>
- Aminou Arouna, **Rachidi Aboudou**, Sali Atanga Ndindeng. (2023). The adoption and impacts of improved parboiling technology for rice value chain upgrading on the livelihood of women rice parboilers in Benin. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*, Specialty Section: Land, Livelihoods and Food Security. Manuscript ID: 1066418, www.frontiersin.org. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2023.1066418>
- Arouna, A., **Aboudou, R.**, Yergo, W., Ouedraogo, M. and Abdoulaye, T. (2023). E-registration and spatial referencing and tracking of farmers in three countries: Case study of Ghana, Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire: Technical Report. Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire: AfricaRice. <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/128629>
- Arouna, A., Yergo, W.G., **Aboudou, R.**, Ouedraogo, M. and Abdoulaye, T. (2023). Baseline report of the Transforming Agrifood Systems in West and Central Africa Initiative (TAFSWCA): A case study in Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire: AfricaRice. <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/128506>
- Aminou Arouna, Wilfried Yergo, **Rachidi Aboudou**, Aristide Akpa, Kazuki Saito, (2022). Ex-post impact of the digital and personalized recommendations in rice production: a case study of RiceAdvice application in the Senegal River Valley. Tropentag 2022 - AfricaRice scientific session, paper selected for presentation, September 15th, 10.30-12.00 CET.
- Tesfahun Alemayehu, Francisco Alpízar, Ivo A. van der Lansb, Aminou Arouna, **Rachidi Aboudou**, (2022). Farmers' Preferences for Land Use and Development Options: A Choice Experiment Study in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. *Journal of Ecological Economics*. *Submitted and under review*.
- Tyack, N., Arouna, A., **Aboudou, R.**, & Ndjiondjop M.N, (2022). An experimental approach to farmer valuation of African rice genetic resource conservation. Genebank Impacts Fellowship. *Journal of European Review of Agricultural Economics*, Oxford University Press. *Submitted and under review*.
- Arouna, A., **Aboudou, R.**, & Tyack, N. (2021). "Short-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the livelihood of smallholder rice farmers in developing countries". 94th Annual Conference of Agricultural Economics Society (AES), March 29-30, 2021, Warwick, UK (Hybrid). DOI: [10.22004/ag.econ.312071](https://doi.org/10.22004/ag.econ.312071)
- Tyack, N., Arouna, A., **Aboudou, R.**, & Ndjiondjop M.N (2021). An experimental approach to farmer valuation of African rice genetic resource conservation. Genebank Impacts Fellowship, Working Paper No.17 September 2021. <https://www.genebanks.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/WP17-Tyack.pdf>
DOI: [10.13140/RG.2.2.30124.39040](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.30124.39040)
- Aminou Arouna, Wilfried Gnipabo Yergo, **Rachidi Aboudou** and Kazuki Saito, (2021). “Comparative Analysis of Rice Yield Determinants in Irrigated Production System in West Africa: Evidence from Classification and Regression

Trees Model in Mali and Senegal". Paper accepted for the 31st International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE), 31 August 2021. DOI: 10.22004/ag.econ.315260

Aboudou, R., Arouna, A., & Mujawamariya, G. (2021). Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Food Security and Income in Developing Countries of Stakeholders: A Case Study of Rice Value Chain Actors. Paper accepted for the 31st International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE), 31 August 2021. DOI: 10.22004/ag.econ.315297

Aminou Arouna & **Rachidi Aboudou**, (2020). "Dataset of the survey on e-registration and geo-referenced of rice value chain actors for the diffusion of technologies: Case of Benin and Côte d'Ivoire", Data in Brief, Volume 30, 2020, 105642, ISSN 2352-3409, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.105642>

Arouna, Aminou & **Aboudou, Rachidi**, (2019). "Impacts of drought-tolerant rice varieties for adaptation to climate change: evidence from three Sub-Saharan African countries," 2019 Sixth International Conference, September 23-26, 2019, Abuja, Nigeria 295793, African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE). DOI: 10.22004/ag.econ.295793

Zozo, R., Lewis, S., Kago, K., Opaluwah, A., Adetunji, O., Asiedu, E., Ndindeng, S.A., Sanyang, S., Saidu, B., Arouna, A., **Aboudou, R.**, and Musabyimana, I. (2021). Report of the Rice Outcome Case Study Seed Production of Resilient Rice Varieties and the GEM Parboiling System in Cote d'Ivoire. 24p TAAT MEL Working Document No. 004

Aboudou, Rachidi et al. (2019). "Incentivising Adoption of and Measuring the Impact of Agricultural Products Processing Technologies: An RCT in West Africa." AEA RCT Registry. May 20. <https://doi.org/10.1257/rct.4081-2.0.Ongoing>

Arouna A., Yergo W. and **Aboudou R.** (2019). Technical report of the baseline survey of the project on youth employment (PEJERIZ) in West Africa. Africa Rice Center, Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire. 54 pages.

Arouna A., **Aboudou R.** (2023). Ex-post impact assessment of the Development of Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA) initiative in Liberia. Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice), Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire. 51 pages.

https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=en&user=LrSFePQAAAAJ&citation_for_view=LrSFePQAAAAJ:_FxGoFyzp5QC

V - LANGUAGES AND TRAINING

Languages:

- **Languages Skills:**
French (**Fluent, Native speaker**),
English (**Fluent, Work Proficiency**),
- **Local languages:** Yoruba/Nago/Dendi/Bariba (**Native speaker**)

Training:

- Online course: *Introduction to public policy impact assessment methods*. Course organized by the **University of Paris-Dauphine** (MOOC-FUN platform);
- Online course: **Writing and publishing a scientific article** proposed by *Institut de Recherche pour le Développement* and its partners and published on the MOOC-FUN platform;
- Train enumerators and National Agriculture Research Structure (NARS) staff on the questionnaire and how to use Android applications such as CSPro, Kobo collect, ODK collect, ONA, Survey solution, GPS devise for data collection since 2015 until now (8 years, with certificates and travel requestion in Africa);

VI - CONTRIBUTION TO BASELINE AND IMPACT STUDY IN AFRICA

Leader of the data collection, automation of the questionnaire, contribution to the writing of scientific reports and papers for the study below:

- Contribute to the e-registration of rice farmers in **West Africa** (Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Togo); **Centrale Africa** (Centrale Africa Republic, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo).

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.105642>

<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/128629>;

- Contribute to the baseline study of the Transforming Agrifood Systems in West and Central Africa Initiative (TAFS-WCA) in Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Cote d’Ivoire, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/128506>
<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/128629>;
- Contribute to the baseline and impact study of Promoting Youth Entrepreneurship in West Africa’s Rice Value Chain (PEJERIZ) project in Mali and Senegal;
<https://www.africanrice.org/post/building-capacity-of-youth-in-rice-entrepreneurship-brings-new-hope-to-senegal>
- Contribute to the baseline and impact study of Development of Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA) initiative project in Liberia;
- Contribute to the baseline study of SLARiS project in Sierra Leone;
- Contribute to the study on Excellence in Agronomy initiative in Nigeria;
- Contribute to the study on contract farming, RiceAdvice and business model development in Nigeria, Benin and Senegal;
- Contribute to panel data collection on “GEM” technology in Benin, Cote d’Ivoire and Nigeria;
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2023.1066418>
- Contribute to RCT experiments in Cote d’Ivoire and Nigeria on GEM, Landrace seeds, and RiceAdvice application.
<https://www.genebanks.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/WP17-Tyack.pdf>
<https://repository.graduateinstitute.ch/record/299844>
- Contribute to the baseline and impact study of ESA parboil project in Mozambique and Madagascar;
- Contribute to the baseline and impact study of CORIS (COVID 19 Response Rice Seed) project in Cote d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali and Nigeria;
- Contribute to the baseline, follow up and endline data collection on SMART-VALLEY technology in Benin, Togo, Liberia and Sierra Leone;
- Contribute to the data collection on impact of COVID-19 pandemic in Cote d’Ivoire, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Madagascar, Ghana and Centrale Africa Republic;
- Contribute to the e-registration and baseline survey of PADECAS project in Centrale Africa Republic;
- Contribute to the data collection on farmer's perceptions and willingness to pay for seeds of hybrid rice varieties as part of the CGIAR market intelligence initiative and TAFS-WCA in Cote d’Ivoire, Benin and Senegal.
- Contribution to WEIA survey in Ghana, Cote d’Ivoire, and Nigeria in 2023.
- Contribution to the RCT baseline survey of Excellence in Agronomy (EiA) in Ghana and Nigeria.

VII- REFERENCES

<p>- Dr. Nicholas Tyack, Van Vliet Term Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada. Email: nicholas.tyack@usask.ca</p>	<p>- Prof. Dr Jacob A. Yabi Professor at the university of Parakou Email: ja_yabi@yahoo.com</p>	<p>- Dr. Nelissa Jamora, Evaluation Specialist, Crop Trust, Genebank Impacts coordinator Email: nelissa.jamora@croptrust.org</p>	<p>- Prof. Dr. Melinda Smale, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA, Email: msmale@msu.edu</p>
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ABOUDOU Rachidi



Bouake, August 10, 2023