

PIERRE LEVASSEUR, Ph.D.

September 2026

Department UMR 1048 SADAPT
INRAE, AgroParisTech, Université Paris-Saclay
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Citizenship Born the 11/18/1989 in Paris (France)

Fields Development Economics
Health and Food Economics
Transition studies

Methods Econometrics and Impact Assessment tools
Data Mining
Quantitative and Qualitative Data Collection

Work Experience

2019-... Tenured researcher at INRAE (French Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment)

2018-19 Postdoctoral fellow on environmental inequality in Europe based on soil pollution exposure (supervision: Katrin Erdlenbruch), UMR G-EAU, Montpellier (France)

2016-18 Teaching and research assistant, University of Bordeaux (France)

2013-16 Doctoral fellow, University of Bordeaux and University of Granada (Spain)

Education

2023 Post-doctoral degree to monitor PhD students (HDR)
Mentor: Karen Macours (PSE, INRAE), Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
Jury: Marc Suhrcke, Aurelia Lépine, Noemi Pace, Rémi Bazillier, Josselin Thuilliez

2018 Qualified by the Council of Universities to the position of Associate Professor

2017 Ph.D. in Economics, from the University of Bordeaux and the University of Granada, with the highest honors "Cum Laude"
Supervisors: Matthieu Clément, Sylvie Ferrari, Maria-Dolores Jiménez-Rubio
Jury: Martine Audibert, Isabelle Chort, Sylvie Lambert

2013 Master of Research in Applied Economics & Development, University of Bordeaux

2011 Bachelor of Economics and Management, University of Normandy (France)

Additional Skills

Software STATA, R, SPSS, ArcGIS, QGIS, SPAD, NVivo, SAS, E-Views, Office, etc.

Languages English (very good), French (mother tongue) and Spanish (excellent)

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Teachings

Development economics and institutions, *Univ. Montpellier* (2026-27)
Economic project management, *Univ. Montpellier* (2025-27)
One health and nature in cities, *Institut One Health* (2024-25)
Inequality in sustainable food accessibility, *ONIRIS Master OH Emerge* (2024-25)
Economic issues of sustainable feeding behaviors, *AgroParisTech* (2021-23)
Development, food inequality and public health, *AgroParisTech* (2019-23)
Survey methodology and Qualitative Approach, *Univ.Bdx* (2018-23)
Econometrics and Impact Assessment Methods, *Univ.Bdx*, *Univ.Paris* (2017-20)
Research Methodology and Project supervisor, *Univ.Bdx* (2015-21)
Data Management & Analysis using STATA, *Univ.Bdx* (2016-18)
Econometrics using R,
Microeconomics, Probabilities and Statistics, *Univ.Bdx* (2013-17)

Refereeing Activities in Peer-Reviewed Journals

Agricultural & Food Economics, *Applied Economics Letters*, *BMC Public Health*, *BMJ Open*, *Communications Health & Environment (Nature)*, *Demography*, *Economics & Human Biology*, *Economie Rurale*, *Food Security*, *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Health Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, *Journal of Economic Studies*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Public Health*, *Kyklos*, *Mathematical Population Studies*, *Public Health & Nutrition*, *Revue d'Economie du Développement*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *SSM-Public Health*.

Doctoral Monitoring

2023-27 Molly Magnier (100%), about *Socioeconomic constraints of sustainable food behaviors in France*

2023-27 Andrea M. Rabarison (50%), with E. Rouvière, about *Socio-environmental determinants of health outcomes in developing countries*

2021-26 Valentina Alvarez-Saavedra (50%), with M. Clément, *Climate hazards, inequality and nutrition in Chile*, defended in May 2026.

2022-26 Garance Treps (100%), about *Municipality-level constraints of sustainable food purchase in public school catering in France* defended in September 2026.

Membership in follow-up Ph.D. committees: C. Cambriel (dir. O. Davidenko), J. Meyer (dir. P. Delacotte and J. Lochard), A. Denieul (dir. V. Bellassen), A-C. Ferreira (dir. E. Raynaud)

Scientific Expertise

2022-26 Expert for the French Council of Public Health (HCSP) in the commission on the determinants of health and non-transmissible diseases

2022-25 Expert for the AgroParisTech's Think&Do Tank for the Nutrition & Food Behaviors (Chaire ANCA), promoting sustainable diets through social networks

Editorial and Collective Involvement

2026 Jury member and reviewer for the HDR thesis of Eric O. Verger (IRD); Jury member for the position of assistant professor in behavioral health economics at Montpellier University

2025 HCERES jury member in the national evaluation, MoiSA

2025-29 Scientific committee member, ACT department

2023-27 Head of the lab's research program on global health, SADAPT

2021-26 Co-editor in chief of the peer-review *Economie Rurale*.

2022-25 Animator of the research axis on food inequality and accessibility, ACT department

2022 Appraiser of foreign candidates for the position of assistant professor, BSE

2019-22 Co-advisor for data collection, management and diffusion, SADAPT

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Communications and Visitings

2026	Conferences of the European health economics association (Rotterdam, Nuremberg)
2025	Conference of the international health economics association (Bali); invited speaker in the annual French Mayors show (Paris)
2024	Visiting Researcher at Universidad Nacional Autonoma de México, Mexico City; 19th Journées de Recherche en Sciences Sociales (JRSS); Workshop on the economics of water, University of Paris-Saclay, ENS Paris-Saclay (France); Invited speaker at Digital Village Paris 13e (science for society seminars); Cantinégalité seminar, ENS Paris Jourdan.
2023	18 th Journées de Recherche en Sciences Sociales (JRSS), Invited speaker in Digital Village (science for society seminars), PSAE unit, CESAER unit and PNCA unit (France)
2022	Invited speaker in the international agricultural show, INRAE stand, Paris; 35 th Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE), Calabria (Italy).
2021	Invited speaker in the Bordeaux School of Economics seminar, Bordeaux
2020	6 th Conference AFSE-DGTrésor on public policy evaluation, Paris; 3 rd International symposium of Chair UNESCO Worldwide Food, Paris.
2019	6 th DIAL Development Conference, Paris; 24 th EAERE Annual Conference, Manchester (UK); Workshop on the nutrition transition in developing countries, Nanjing (China); Workshop on data gaps and innovative data collection, UFZ Leipzig (Germany).
2018	Conference of the Third-World Association, Grenoble (France); Invited speaker at Umeå School of Business and Economics, Umeå (Sweden).
2017	4 th DIAL Development Conference, Paris (France); 35 th International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Lima (Peru).
2016	Visiting Researcher at the Autonomous Metropolitan University, Mexico City
2015	35 th Conference of Health Economics, Granada (Spain)
2014	Visiting Researcher at the University of Tijuana (Mexico); 5 th GREThA Conference of Development Economics, Bordeaux (France)

Publications in peer-reviews

1. Sex ratio and fertility preferences in India: a longitudinal analysis (2025), Matthieu Clement and Suneha Seetahul, **World Development**.
2. Water insecurity and purchases of soft and sweet beverages: a case study in the obesogenic context of the Pacific Islands (2024), with Séa Rouly and Suneha Seetahul, **Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy**.
3. Potential unexpected effects of meat reduction in diet: could educational attainment influence meat substitution strategies? (2024), with François Mariotti, Isabelle Denis and Olga Davidenko, **Agricultural and Food Economics**.
4. ‘Mother’s milk’: Is there a social reversal in breastfeeding practices along with economic development? (2024), with Matthieu Clément and Elodie Rossi, **Social Science & Medicine**.
5. Updating the association between socioeconomic status and obesity in sub-Saharan Africa: a literature review (2023), with Bertille Daran and Matthieu Clément, **Obesity Reviews**.
6. The Role of Gender Inequality in the Obesity Epidemic: A Case Study from India (2023), with Valentina Alvarez-Saavedra and Suneha Seetahul, **The Journal of Development Studies**.
7. Violation of women's rights and malnutrition in India, towards new forms of inequality? (2022), with Valentina Alvarez-Saavedra and Suneha Seetahul, **Mondes en Développement**.
8. The impacts of school starting age on nutrition: The case of emerging countries (2022), **Economics & Human Biology**.
9. Is overweight still a problem of rich in sub-Saharan Africa? Insights based on female oriented demographic and health surveys (2022), with Bertille Daran, **World Development Perspectives**.

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10. Does pollution perception lead to risk avoidance behaviour? A mixed methods analysis, with Katrin Erdlenbruch, Christelle Gramaglia, et al. (2022), **Review of Social Economy**.
11. Health and social costs induced by exposure to soil pollution: Evidence from a comparative study (2021), with Katrin Erdlenbruch and Christelle Gramaglia, **Journal of Public Health**.
12. Why do people continue to live in polluted areas? Empirical evidence from Southwestern Europe (2021), with Katrin Erdlenbruch and Christelle Gramaglia, **Environmental Modeling and Assessment**.
13. Does inequality have a silver lining? Municipal income inequality and obesity in Mexico (2021), with Matthieu Clement, Suneha Seetahul and Lucie Piaser. **Social Science & Medicine**.
14. Why conditional cash transfers programs fail to target the poor? The case of urban Mexico (2021), **CEPAL Review**.
15. Do junk food bans in school really reduce childhood overweight? Evidence from Brazil (2020), **Food Policy**.
16. Is excess weight penalised or rewarded in middle-income countries' labour markets? Comparative evidence from China, India and Mexico (2020), with Matthieu Clément and Suneha Seetahul, **Kyklos**.
17. 'Fat black sheep': Educational penalties of childhood obesity in an emerging country (2020), **Public Health Nutrition**.
18. Dynamics of the bodyweight-wage relationship in emerging countries: Evidence from Mexico (2021), **Revue d'Economie du Développement**.
19. Can social programs break the vicious cycle between poverty and obesity? Evidence from urban Mexico (2019), **World Development**.
20. Implementing a regression discontinuity design to explore the heterogeneous effects of obesity on labour income: The case of Mexico (2019), **Journal of Public Health**.
21. How does childhood obesity affect school achievement? Contributions from a qualitative analysis implemented in Mexico City (2017), with Luis Ortiz-Hernandez, **Autrepart**.
22. Causal effects of socioeconomic status on central adiposity risks: Evidence using panel data from urban Mexico (2015), **Social Science & Medicine**.

Working papers

1. Is the protein transition healthy for everyone? Contrasting evidence on obesity in France, with Molly Magnier and Olga Davidenko (status =submitted).
2. Do urban agriculture programs reduce food and nutritional inequality? Evidence from a regression discontinuity design in a Paris suburb, with Baptiste Girault and Maya Kelifi (status =submitted).
3. Why identical procurement rules lead to different outcomes? Evidence from French school catering, with Garance Treps, Elodie Rouvière and Emmanuel Raynaud (status=submitted).
4. Is cost a real constraint against green public food procurement? Quantitative and qualitative evidence from the school catering sector in France, with Garance Treps (status=submitted).
5. Healthy and happier: Mental health effects of residential food environments, with Andrea Rabarison, Elodie Rouvière and Luis Ortiz (status =submitted).
6. Local food supply and obesity in urban Mexico, with Andrea Rabarison, Elodie Rouvière and Luis Ortiz (status =90%).
7. Climate change and nutritional inequality in Chile, with Valentina Alvarez-Saavedra (status=90%).
8. Natural disasters and obesity: evidence from the 2010' earthquake in Chile, with Valentina Alvarez-Saavedra and Matthieu Clément (status=90%).
9. Socioeconomic-specific impacts of the introduction vegetarian days on nutritional meal quality: an experiment in public university catering, with Molly Magnier, Claire Cambriels and Olga Davidenko (status =80%).
10. A study of the socioeconomic issues of the protein transition in Brazil, with Jackson Laurentino (status=70%).
11. Effects of urban greening policies on health inequality among low-income urban neighborhoods: comparative evidence from natural experiments in France and Mexico, with Andrea Rabarison and Baptiste Girault (status=20%).

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Appearance in the media and publications for the general public

1. **VoxDev**: “Sex ratio and fertility”, with S. Seetahul and M. Clément (forthcoming).
2. **The Conversation** : « Without clean water, Pacific Islanders turn to sugary drinks. Tackling this could reduce obesity » (19 of december 2024), with S. Seetahul.
3. **Sciences et Avenir**: « 5 fruits et légumes par jour : retour sur une politique publique ? (paper journal Oct-Dec 2025)»; « Comment manger sainement... En milieu hostile » (paper journal Jan-March 2025); « Pourquoi certains pays d'Asie du Sud-Est pourraient voir leur taux d'obésité exploser » (18 of july 2024); « Faut-il taxer la malbouffe comme le tabac pour lutter contre l'épidémie d'obésité » (9 of july 2024), by I. do O’Gomes.
4. **La Vie des Idées (Essai)**: « Socio-économie de l'obésité : le cas mexicain » (6 of january 2022).

Current supervision of funded research projects

2023-2027: SUBMEAT - Poverty as a risk factor for unhealthy meat substitutions in a context of reducing meat in diet (560k€), co-coord. O. Davidenko (AgroParisTech).

Funded by AgroParisTech (7%), the Region Ile-de-France (14%), and the French Research Agency (79%).

2024-2026: SOS-City – Fighting against obesogenic urban environments in Mexico and France: the responsibility of local authorities (167k€).

Funded by INRAE (23%), AgroParisTech (3%) and Paris-Saclay University (74%).

2024-2027: FIT’AUN – Functions, impacts and trade-off of urban agriculture projects (50.5k€), co-coord. Maia David (AgroParisTech) and Giulia Giacché (INRAE).

Funded by AgroParisTech.

Past project coordination

2021-2023: Obes’Islands - Socioeconomic drivers of the normalization of overweight status in Pacific Islands (3k€), co-coord. Suneha Seetahul (University of Sydney).

Funded by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia.

2020-2022: TransNut - Socioeconomic causes of obesity in low-income countries (17k€).

Funded by INRAE (Global Food Security program).