

Jessica M. Heckert

1201 I Street NW | Washington, DC 20005 | (Tel.) 202-627-4321 | J.Heckert@cgiar.org

Current Position

International Food Policy Research Institute

Research Fellow 2016 – present
Associate Research Fellow 2013 – 2016

Education

Ph.D. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 2013
Demography, Human Development, & Family Studies

M.S. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 2010
Demography, Human Development, & Family Studies

B.S. Greensboro College, Greensboro, NC 2003
Psychology, *Summa Cum Laude*, Honors Program Degree
Minors: Mathematics and Women's Studies

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Sheela S. Sinharoy, Yuk Fai Cheong, Greg Seymour, **Jessica Heckert**, Erin R. Johnson, and Kathryn M. Yount. 2023. The Time-Use Agency Scale: Development and Validation of a Measure for Ghana and Beyond. *Feminist Economics* 29(4): 103-132. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13545701.2023.2262476>

Conners, Kaela, Lindsay Jaacks, Ananya Awasthi, Karoline Becker, Rachel Bezner Kerr, Emily Fivian, Aulo Gelli, Helen Harris-Fry, **Jessica Heckert**, Suneetha Kadiyala, Elena Martinez, Marianne V, Santoso, Sera L, Young, and Lilia Bliznashka. 2023. Women's Empowerment, Production Choices, and Crop Diversity: a secondary analysis of cross-sectional data from four low- and middle-income countries. *The Lancet Planetary Health* 7(7): e558-e569. doi: [10.1016/S2542-5196\(23\)00125-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(23)00125-0)

Heckert, Jessica, Elena M. Martinez, Armande Sanou, Abdoulaye Pedehombga, Rasmané Ganaba, and Aulo Gelli. 2023. *Can a Gender-Sensitive Integrated Poultry Value Chain and Nutrition Intervention among the Rural Poor Increase Women's Empowerment in Burkina Faso?* *Journal of Rural Studies* 100(103026). doi: [10.1016/j.jrurstud.2023.103026](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2023.103026)

Heckert, Jessica, Elena M. Martinez, Greg Seymour, Audrey Pereira, Shalini Roy, Sunny S. Kim, Hazel Malapit, and Gender Assets and Agriculture Project Phase 2 (GAAP2) Health and Nutrition Study Team. 2023. "Development and Validation of a Health and Nutrition Module for the Project-Level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (pro-WEAI+HN)." *Maternal & Child Nutrition* 19:e13464. doi: [10.1111/mcn.13464](https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.13464).

Quisumbing, Agnes, Beatrice Gerli, Simone Faas, **Jessica Heckert**, Hazel J. Malapit, Catherine McCarron, Ruth Suseela Meinzen-Dick, and Florencia Paz. 2023. Assessing Multicountry Programs Through a "Reach, Benefit, Empower, Transform" Lens. *Global Food Security: 37*(100685). doi: [10.1016/j.gfs.2023.100685](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2023.100685).

Eissler, Sarah, **Jessica Heckert**, Emily Myers, Greg Seymour, Sheela Sinharoy, and Kathryn Yount. 2022. "Measuring Women's Empowerment: Gender and Time-Use Agency in

- Benin, Malawi and Nigeria.” *Development and Change* 53(5):1010–34. doi: [10.1111/dech.12725](https://doi.org/10.1111/dech.12725).
- Galiè, Alessandra, Nelly Njiru, **Jessica Heckert**, Emily Myers, and Silvia Alonso. 2022. “Gendered Barriers and Opportunities in Kenya’s Informal Dairy Sector: Enhancing Gender-Equity in Urban Markets.” *Gender, Technology and Development* 26(2):214-237. doi: [10.1080/09718524.2022.2084491](https://doi.org/10.1080/09718524.2022.2084491).
- Le Port, Agnes, Moustapha Seye, **Jessica Heckert**, Amber Peterman, Annick Nganya Tchamwa, Malick Dione, Abdou Salam Fall, and Melissa Hidrobo. 2022. “A Community Edutainment Intervention for Gender-Based Violence, Sexual and Reproductive Health, and Maternal and Child Health in Rural Senegal: A Process Evaluation.” *BMC Public Health* 22(1):1165. doi: [10.1186/s12889-022-13570-6](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-13570-6).
- Leight, Jessica, Josué Awonon, Abdoulaye Pedehombga, Rasmané Ganaba, Elena Martinez, **Jessica Heckert**, and Aulo Gelli. 2022. “The Impact of an Integrated Value Chain Intervention on Household Poultry Production in Burkina Faso: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial.” *Journal of Development Effectiveness* 14(2):108–24. doi: [10.1080/19439342.2021.1968932](https://doi.org/10.1080/19439342.2021.1968932).
- Agnes Quisumbing, **Jessica Heckert**, Simon Faas, Gayathri Ramani, Kalyani Raghunathan, Hazel Malapit and the pro-WEAI for Market Inclusion Study Team (2021). Transforming Food Systems to Empower Women and Enhance Gender Equality: Evidence from four countries in Asia and Africa. *Food Security: 13: 1101-1124*. doi: [10.1007/s12571-021-01193-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12571-021-01193-5)
- Jessica Heckert**, Audrey Pereira, Cheryl Doss, Emily C. Myers, & Agnes Quisumbing (2021). Structural Transformation and Gendered Transitions to Adulthood among Rural Youth: Cross-National Evidence from Low and Middle-Income Countries. *Journal of Development Studies: 57(4) 614-634*. doi: [10.1080/00220388.2020.1808196](https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2020.1808196)
Part of a special issue on Youth Inclusion in Rural Transformation
- Jessica Heckert**, Jef Leroy, Deanna K. Olney, Susan Richter, Elyse Iruhiriyé, & Marie T. Ruel (2020). The cost of improving nutritional outcomes through food-assisted maternal and child health and nutrition programs in Burundi and Guatemala. *Maternal & Child Nutrition: 16:e12863*. doi: [10.1111/mcn.12863](https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12863)
- *Anika Hannan, **Jessica Heckert**, Laurie James-Hawkins, & Kathryn M. Yount. (2020). Cognitive interviewing to improve women’s empowerment questions in surveys: Application to the health and nutrition and intrahousehold relationships modules for the project-level Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index. *Maternal & Child Nutrition: 16:e12871*. doi: [10.1111/mcn.12871](https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12871)
Third most downloaded article of 2020
- Jessica Heckert**, Deanna K. Olney, & Marie T. Ruel. (2019). Is Women’s Empowerment a Pathway to Improving Child Health Outcomes?: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial in Burkina Faso. *Social Science and Medicine: 223: 93-102*. doi: [10.1016/j.socscimed.2019.05.016](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2019.05.016)
- Hazel J. L. Malapit, Agnes Quisumbing, Ruth Meinzen-Dick, Greg Seymour, Elena M. Martinez, **Jessica Heckert**, Deborah Rubin, Ana Vaz, Kathryn M. Yount, and the Gender

Agiculture and Assets Project, Phase 2 (GAAP2) Study Team. (2019). Development of the project-level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (pro-WEAI). *World Development*: 122: 675-692. doi: [10.1016/j.worlddev.2019.06.018](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2019.06.018)

Kathryn M. Yount, Yuk Fai Cheong, Lauren Maxwell, **Jessica Heckert**, Elena M. Martinez, & Greg Seymour. (2019). Measurement Properties of the project-level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index. *World Development*: 124. doi: [10.1016/j.worlddev.2019.104639](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2019.104639)

Jessica Heckert. (2016). Does Rural-to-Urban Migration Place Adolescents at Risk of Deleterious Sexual and Reproductive Health Outcomes? Evidence from Haiti. *Journal of Biosocial Science*: 48(6): 723-745. doi: [10.1017/S002193201500036X](https://doi.org/10.1017/S002193201500036X)

Deanna K. Olney, Lilia Bliznashka, Abdoulaye Pedehombga, Andrew Dillon, Marie Ruel, & **Jessica Heckert**. (2016). A 2-Year Integrated Agriculture and Nutrition Program Targeted to Mothers of Young Children in Burkina Faso Reduces Underweight among Mothers and Increases Their Empowerment: A Cluster-Randomized Controlled Trial. *Journal of Nutrition*: 146(5): 1109-1117. doi: [10.3945/jn.115.224261](https://doi.org/10.3945/jn.115.224261)

Jessica Heckert. (2015). New Perspectives on Youth Migration: Motives and Family Investment Patterns. *Demographic Research*: 33(27): 765-800. doi: [10.4054/DemRes.2015.33.27](https://doi.org/10.4054/DemRes.2015.33.27)
Article designated *Replicable*

Jessica Heckert, Sandra Boatemaa, & Claire Altman. (2015). Migrant Youth's Emerging Dietary Patterns in Haiti: The Role of Peer Social Engagement. *Public Health Nutrition*: 18(07): 1262-1271. doi: [10.1017/S1368980014001372](https://doi.org/10.1017/S1368980014001372)
Special focus issue on sugar-sweetened beverages

Jessica Heckert & Madeline Short Fabric. (2013). Improving Data Concerning Women's Empowerment in sub-Saharan Africa. *Studies in Family Planning*: 44(3): 319-344. doi: [10.1111/j.1728-4465.2013.00360.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1728-4465.2013.00360.x)

Emily Smith-Greenaway & **Jessica Heckert**. (2013). Does the Orphan Disadvantage "Spill Over"? An Analysis of Whether Living in an Area with a Higher Concentration of Orphans is Associated with Children's School Enrollment in sub-Saharan Africa. *Demographic Research*: 28(40): 1167-1198. doi: [10.4054/DemRes.2013.28.40](https://doi.org/10.4054/DemRes.2013.28.40)

* Lead student or research assistant/analyst author for whom I was the mentoring author

Manuscripts under Review or with Complete Drafts

Sinharoy, Sheela, Erin Johnson, Agnes R. Quisumbing, Hazel Jean Malapit, Talip Kilic, Md Zahidul Hassan, Shelton S. E. Kanyanda, Sudhindra Sharma, Md Imrul Hassan, **Jessica Heckert**, Ruth S. Meinzen-Dick, Yuk Fai Cheong, Emily Myers, Florencia Paz, Pankaj Pokhrel, Wilbert Vundru, Cheryl R. Doss, Greg Seymour, and Kathryn M. Yount. 2023. "The Women's Empowerment Metric for National Statistical Systems (WEMNS) Module: Development and Psychometric Assessment of a Preliminary Phone Survey Instrument."

Quisumbing, Agnes R., Ruth Suseela Meinzen-Dick, Hazel J. Malapit, Greg Seymour, **Jessica Heckert**, Cheryl Doss, Nancy Johnson, Deborah Rubin, Giang Thai, and Gayathri V. Ramani. *Can Agricultural Development Projects Empower Women? A Synthesis of*

Mixed Methods Evaluations Using pro-WEAI in the Gender, Agriculture, and Assets Project (Phase 2) Portfolio.

Malick Dione, **Jessica Heckert**, Melissa Hidrobo, Agnes le Port, Amber Peterman, and Moustapha Seye. Can a multitopic edutainment series decrease gender-based violence and improve women's sexual and reproductive health in rural Senegal? Experimental evidence from *C'est la vie!*

Yount, Kathryn M., Agnes R. Quisumbing, Ruth S. Meinzen-Dick, Hazel Jean Malapit, Md Zahidul Hassan, Shelton S. E. Kanyanda, Sudhindra Sharma, Md Imrul Hassan, **Jessica Heckert**, Florencia Paz, Pankaj Pokhrel, Wilbert Vundru, Cheryl R. Doss, Greg Seymour, Heather G. Moylan, Talip Kilic, Emily Myers, Simone Faas, and Sheela Sinharoy. 2023. "Women's Empowerment Metric for National Statistical Systems (WEMNS): Development and Psychometric Properties of a Face-to-Face Survey Module."

Hazel Malapit, **Jessica Heckert**, Ygué Patrice Adegbola, Géraud Fabrice Crinot, Sarah Eissler, Simone Faas, Geoffroy Gantoli, Kenan Kalagho, Elena M. Martinez, Ruth Meinzen-Dick, Grace Mswero, Emily Myers, Diston Mzungu, Audrey Pereira, Crossley Pinkstaff, Agnes Quisumbing, Catherine Ragasa, Deborah Rubin, Elizabeth Salazar Salazar; Greg Seymour, Salauddin Tauseef. Measuring empowerment across the value chain: The evolution of the project-level Women's Empowerment Index for Market Inclusion (pro-WEAI+MI).

*Myers, Emily, **Jessica Heckert**, Elizabeth Salazar, Kenan Kalagho, Flora Salamba, Diston Mzungu, Grace Mswero, Ygue Patrice Adegbola, Geraud Fabrice Crinot, and Baudelaire Kouton-Bognon. 2023. *What Are You Talking about? Applying Cognitive Interviewing to Improve Survey Questions on Women's Economic Empowerment for Market Inclusion.*

Dominique Duval-Diop, **Jessica Heckert**, Jean Lee, Greg Seymour, and Katherine Vaughn. Explaining the gender gap in profits among entrepreneurs in Malawi.

Maryann G. Delea, Sheela S. Sinharoy, Yuk Fai Cheong, **Jessica Heckert**, Greg Seymour, Ruth Meinzen-Dick, Kathryn M. Yount. The Group-Related Collective Agency Scales: Full & short-form scales for construct measurement in Nigeria and beyond.

Jessica Heckert, Jessica Leight, Josué Awonon, Rasmané Ganaba, Abdoulaye Pedehombga, and Aulo Gelli. Understanding the role of different program components of a nutrition-sensitive intervention in mediating impact: Applying causal mediation analysis to experimental evidence from Burkina Faso.

Kalyani Raghunathan, Mai Mahmoud, **Jessica Heckert**, & Greg Seymour. Measuring Women's Control over Income and Decision Making: A Comparison of Nationally Representative Surveys.

Book Chapters

Hazel J. L. Malapit, **Jessica Heckert**, Jessica Scott, R Padmaja, & Agnes Quisumbing. (2021). Leveraging Nutrition-Sensitive Agricultural Programs for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality. In R. Pyburn and A. van Eerdewijk (Eds.), *Advancing Gender Equality the Agricultural and Environmental Research: Past, Present, and Future.* (pp. 189-220). Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Jessica Heckert, Audrey Pereira, Cheryl Doss, Emily C. Myers, & Agnes Quisumbing. (2019). Building livelihoods for rural youth: A gendered perspective. In A. Quisumbing, R. Meinzen-Dick, & J. Njuki (Eds.), *Gender Equality in Rural Africa: From Commitments to Outcomes* (pp.120-135). ReSAKSS 2019 Annual Trends and Outlook Report. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Claudia Nau & **Jessica Heckert**. (2013). Integrating perspectives on child health: Where do we go now? In Nancy Landale, Susan McHale, & Alan Booth (Eds.), *Families and Child Health* (pp. 213-226). New York, NY: Springer.

Rukmalie Jayakody, **Jessica Heckert**, & Dang N. Anh. (2010). Social change and premarital sexual behavior and attitudes in Vietnam. In R. Silbereisen & X. Chen (Eds.), *Social Change in Human Development: Concepts and Results* (pp. 227-244). London, UK: Sage.

Working papers, reports, and unpublished manuscripts currently not available elsewhere

Cole, Steve, Nathaniel Ferguson, **Jessica Heckert**, Devis Mwakanyamale, Greg Seymour, Shiferaw Feleke, Gundula Fischer, Innocensia John, Zawadi Lija, Mussa Nyaa, and Happy Zacharia. n.d. *How Do Couples in Rural Tanzania Make Decisions? Findings from a Novel Mixed-Methods Approach for Understanding Intra-household Decision-Making*. CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform Working Paper #016. Available at: <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/657feef8-4404-41c5-b0a3-c31871897fd8/content>

Dione, Malick, **Jessica Heckert**, Melissa Hidrobo, Agnès Le Port, Amber Peterman, and Moustapha Seye. 2023. *C'est La Vie!: Mixed Impacts of an Edutainment Television Series in West Africa*. IFPRI Discussion paper #02210. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.137017>

Heckert, Jessica, Kalyani Raghunathan, Emily Myers, Gayathri Ramani, Simone Faas, Nathaniel Ferguson, Greg Seymour, Hazel Malapit, Florencia Paz, Febbie Chiwasa, Joan Chilalika, Jean Kamwaba-Mtethiwa, Gowokani Chijere Chirwa, Abigail Simkoko, Abdallah Chilungo, Rachana Upadhyaya, Meeta S. Pradhan, Nira Joshi, and Sanish Shrestha. 2023. *Development of a Women's Empowerment Metric for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WE-WASH)* IFPRI Discussion paper #02192. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.137008>

*Myers, Emily, **Jessica Heckert**, Elizabeth Salazar, Kenan Kalagho, Flora Salamba, Diston Mzungu, Grace Mswero, Ygue Patrice Adegbola, Geraud Fabrice Crinot, and Baudelaire Kouton-Bognon. 2023. *What Are You Talking about? Applying Cognitive Interviewing to Improve Survey Questions on Women's Economic Empowerment for Market Inclusion*. IFPRI Discussion paper #02192. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.136726>

*Myers, Emily, **Jessica Heckert**, Simone Faas, Hazel Malapit, Ruth Meinzen-Dick, Kalyani Raghunathan, and Agnes Quisumbing. 2023. *Is Women's Empowerment Bearing Fruit?: Mapping Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) Results Using the Gender and Food Systems Framework*. IFPRI Discussion paper #02039. Available at <https://ebrary.ifpri.org/digital/collection/p15738coll2/id/136722>

- Seymour, Greg, Steve Cole, Elizabeth Costenbader, Devis Mwakanyamale, Olajumoke Adeyeye, Shiferaw Feleke, Nathaniel Ferguson, **Jessica Heckert**, Sarah Msita, Kate Litvin, and Tina Phillips Johnson. 2023. "Measuring Gender and Social Norms in Agrifood Systems: Evidence from Tanzania and Nigeria." Available at <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12992-018-0398-x>
- Seymour, Greg, Simone Faas, Nathaniel Ferguson, **Jessica Heckert**, Hazel Malapit, Ruth Meizen-Dick, Agnes Quisumbing, and Chloe van Biljon. 2023. *A Multi-Country Validation and Sensitivity Analysis of the Project Level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (Pro-WEAI)*. IFPRI Discussion paper #02201. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.136974>
- Sinharoy, Sheela, Erin Johnson, Agnes R. Quisumbing, Hazel Jean Malapit, Talip Kilic, Md Zahidul Hassan, Shelton S. E. Kanyanda, Sudhindra Sharma, Md Imrul Hassan, **Jessica Heckert**, Ruth S. Meizen-Dick, Yuk Fai Cheong, Emily Myers, Florencia Paz, Pankaj Pokhrel, Wilbert Vundru, Cheryl R. Doss, Greg Seymour, and Kathryn M. Yount. 2023. "The Women's Empowerment Metric for National Statistical Systems (WEMNS) Module: Development and Psychometric Assessment of a Preliminary Phone Survey Instrument." Available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4528648
- Yount, Kathryn M., Agnes R. Quisumbing, Ruth S. Meizen-Dick, Hazel Jean Malapit, Md Zahidul Hassan, Shelton S. E. Kanyanda, Sudhindra Sharma, Md Imrul Hassan, **Jessica Heckert**, Florencia Paz, Pankaj Pokhrel, Wilbert Vundru, Cheryl R. Doss, Greg Seymour, Heather G. Moylan, Talip Kilic, Emily Myers, Simone Faas, and Sheela Sinharoy. 2023. "Women's Empowerment Metric for National Statistical Systems (WEMNS): Development and Psychometric Properties of a Face-to-Face Survey Module." Available at <https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4657841>
- Quisumbing, Agnes R., Ruth Suseela Meizen-Dick, Hazel J. Malapit, Greg Seymour, **Jessica Heckert**, Cheryl Doss, Nancy Johnson, Deborah Rubin, Giang Thai, and Gayathri V. Ramani. 2022. *Can Agricultural Development Projects Empower Women? A Synthesis of Mixed Methods Evaluations Using pro-WEAI in the Gender, Agriculture, and Assets Project (Phase 2) Portfolio*. Vol. 2137. Intl Food Policy Res Inst. <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.136405>
- *Emily C. Myers, **Jessica Heckert**, Alessandra Galie, Nelly Njiru, and Silvia Alonso (2021). Staying afloat in the milk business: Borrowing and selling on credit among informal milk vendors in peri-urban Nairobi. IFPRI Discussion paper #02039. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134531>
- Dominique Duval-Diop, **Jessica Heckert**, Jean Lee, Greg Seymour, and Katherine Vaughn (2021). Explaining the gender gap in profits among entrepreneurs in Malawi. IFPRI Discussion Paper #02014. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134352>
- Catherine Ragasa, Hazel J. Malapit, Deborah Rubin, Emily Myers, Audrey Pereira, Elena M. Martinez, **Jessica Heckert**, Greg Seymour, Diston Mzungu, Kenan Kalagho, Cynthia Kazembe, Jack Thunde, Grace Mswelo (2021). "It takes two": Women's empowerment in agricultural value chains in Malawi. IFPRI Discussion Paper #02006. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134302>

- Jessica Heckert**, Emily Myers, & Hazel J Malapit (2020). Developing survey-based measures of gendered freedom of movement for use in studies of agricultural value chains. IFPRI Discussion Paper #01966. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134048>
- Sarah Eissler, Armande Sanou, **Jessica Heckert**, Emily Myers, Safiatou Nignan, Elisabeth Thio, Lucienne Amélie Pitropia, Rasmané Ganaba, Abdoulaye Pedehombga, & Aulo Gelli. (2020). Gender participation in poultry value chains: Qualitative findings from an impact evaluation of nutrition-sensitive poultry value chain intervention in Burkina Faso. IFPRI Discussion Paper # 01928. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.133726>
- Sarah Eissler, Armande Sanou, **Jessica Heckert**, Emily Myers, Safiatou Nignan, Elisabeth Thio, Lucienne Amélie Pitropia, Rasmané Ganaba, Abdoulaye Pedehombga, & Aulo Gelli. (2020). Gender dynamics, women's empowerment, and diets: Qualitative findings from an impact evaluation of nutrition-sensitive poultry value chain intervention in Burkina Faso. IFPRI Discussion Paper # 01913. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.133653>
- Cheryl Doss, **Jessica Heckert**, Emily C. Myers, Audrey Pereira, & Agnes Quisumbing. (2019). Gender, Rural Youth, and Structural Transformation: Evidence to Inform Innovative Youth Programming. Series: 2019 Rural Development Report Background Papers. Available at <https://www.ifad.org/documents/38714170/41187395/04_Doss+et+al_2019+RDR+BAC+KGROUND+PAPER.pdf/cb007332-880e-c000-aa82-e47d0a4d5a98>.
- Aulo Gelli, Abdoulaye Pedehombga, Ampa Diatta, Armande Sanou, Elodie Becquey, Loty Diop, Sarah Eissler, **Jessica Heckert**, & Rasmané Ganaba. (2019). Examining the Implementation of Multisectoral Programs: the SELEVER Process Evaluation. IFPRI Discussion Paper # 01873. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.133434>.
- Derek Headey, **Jessica Heckert**, Biram Ndiaye, Mauro Brero, & Vincent Assey. (2019). Accounting for the Rapid Reduction of Child Stunting in Tanzania over 2005-2016. IFPRI Discussion paper #01874. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.133440>.
- Jessica Heckert**, Derek Headey, Biram Ndiaye, Mauro Brero, & Vincent Assey. (2019). Analysis of the drivers of change in women's anemia in Tanzania 2005-2015. IFPRI Discussion paper #01875. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.133440>.
- Elyse Iruhiriye, Deanna K. Olney, Gayathri Ramani, **Jessica Heckert**, Emmanuel Niyongira, & Edward A. Frongillo. (2019). Stories of Change - Rwanda, Final Report. Available at <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.133377>.
- Susan Richter, Elyse Iruhiriye, **Jessica Heckert**, Celeste Sununtnasuk, Marie Ruel, Jef Leroy, & Deanna Olney. (2018). Cost Study of the Preventing Malnutrition in Children Under 2 Years of Age Approach in Burundi and Guatemala. Available at <https://www.fantaproject.org/research/impact-cost-effectiveness-pm2a>
- Jessica Heckert**, Jef Leroy, Lilia Bliznashka, Deanna Olney, & Susan Richter. (2018). Strengthening and Evaluating the Preventing Malnutrition in Children under Two Years of Age Approach: Guatemala Follow-up Report. Available at

<https://www.fantaproject.org/sites/default/files/resources/Guatemala-PM2A-FollowUp-Report-Jun2018.pdf>

Jef Leroy, Celeste Sununtnasuk, **Jessica Heckert**, & Deanna Olney. (2017). Strengthening and Evaluating the Preventing Malnutrition in Children under Two Years of Age Approach: Burundi Follow-up Report: Children 24 to 41 months. Available at <https://www.fantaproject.org/sites/default/files/resources/Burundi-PM2A-second-follow-up-Sep2017.pdf>

Jef Leroy, **Jessica Heckert**, Kenda Cunningham, & Deanna Olney. (2014). Strengthening and Evaluating the “Preventing Malnutrition in Children under Two Years of Age Approach”: Burundi Follow-up Report: Children 0 to 23 months. Available at <https://www.fantaproject.org/research/impact-cost-effectiveness-pm2a>

Jessica Heckert. (2013). *Youth Migration and Youth Transitions: The Haitian Experience*. Thesis archived at <https://etda.libraries.psu.edu/paper/19263/>.

Jessica Heckert. (2010). *Ethnic Group Disparities in Academic Skill Development across Four Economically Developing Countries*. Thesis archived at <https://etda.libraries.psu.edu/paper/10743/>.

Project Notes and Policy Notes

Valiente, Regina, **Jessica Heckert**, Florencia Paz, and Edwin Cabnal. 2023. Empoderamiento de la mujer rural en Guatemala, necesidades y oportunidades de medición: Posibles aplicaciones de una Métrica de Empoderamiento de las Mujeres para los Sistemas Estadísticos Nacionales (WEMNS). Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute. doi: <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.136870> (Spanish version) <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.136870> (English version)

*Myers, Emily, Yuna Baek, Gayathri V. Ramani, and **Jessica Heckert**. 2022. *Not Just a Drop in the Bucket: Measuring Women’s Empowerment in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene*. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute. doi: [10.2499/p15738coll2.135066](https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.135066).

Malick, Dione, Lo Codé, Seye Moustapha, Fall Salam Abdou, Hidrobo Melissa, Le Port Agnès, **Heckert Jessica**, and Peterman Amber. 2021. *Women and Adolescent Girls’ Experience with COVID-19 in Rural Senegal*. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute. doi: <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134274> (English version) <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134292> (French version)

Previous Professional Experience

Graduate Student Researcher Families and Communities in Transition Project Office, Penn State	2007 – 2013
Demographic and Health Surveys Intern, Global Health Fellows Program-II Office of Population and Reproductive Health, USAID	2012
Evaluation Consultant Center for Evidence-Based Prevention and Intervention Programs	2010
Youth, Family, and Community Development Specialist	2005 – 2007

United States Peace Corps, Dominican Republic

Rural Health Specialist 2003 – 2005
United States Peace Corps, Haiti

Fellowships and Awards

The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (awarded 2008) 2010 – 2013
Ruth W. Ayres-Givens Award for Interdisciplinary Research that Benefits Society 2012
Annual Meeting of Noble Laureates, Lindau, Germany, Penn State Nominee 2011
Early Career Development Award, Center for Global Studies, Penn State 2011
Research Grant, Africana Research Center, Penn State 2011
The National Institute of Child Health & Human Development
Predoctoral Traineeship in Family Demography 2008 – 2010
Travel Grant, International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development 2010
University Graduate Fellowship, Penn State 2007 – 2008
Herbert Bailey Graduate Fellowship for Demography Recruitment, Penn State 2007

Invited & Conference Presentations (last 5 years)

Kalyani Raghunathan, Mai Mahmoud, **Jessica Heckert**, & Greg Seymour. (2021). Measuring Women's Control over Income and Decision Making: A Comparison of Nationally Representative Surveys. Presented virtually at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America.

Mai Mahmoud, **Jessica Heckert**, Greg Seymour, & Kalyani Raghunathan. (2021). Measuring Women's Ownership of Resources: A Comparison of Survey Question Construction Across Nationally Representative Surveys. Presented virtually at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America.

Heckert, J., Malapit, H., & Myers, E.C., (2019). Developing Measures of Freedom of Movement for Gendered Studies of Agricultural Value Chains. Presented at the Seeds of Change Conference, Canberra, Australia.

Heckert, J., Myers, E., Galie, A., Njiru, N., Kakota, T., & Alonso, S. (2019) Empowerment among Informal Milk Traders in Peri-urban Nairobi: Informing an Adaptation of the project-level Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index. Presented at the Seeds of Change Conference, Canberra, Australia.

... And, presented at the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Health Academy Week, Research Conferences, Hyderabad, India.

Data Analysis Packages

STATA, R, ATLAS.ti, NVivo

Languages

English: Native

Spanish: Advanced

Haitian Creole: Advanced

French: Intermediate

Professional and Institutional Service

International Food Policy Research Institute

Co-chair, RISE Research Day (2018-current))

Hiring committee chair: Research Analyst, PHND (2021)

Hiring committee member: Associate Research Fellow-Ethiopia (2023),
Research Coordinator AFRD (2022), Program Manager, PHND (2019),
Senior Research Assistant, Gender Team (2017), Program Manager,
Harvest Plus (2017)

Data Governance Committee (2018-2019)

Organizing committee, RISE Staff retreat (2017)

Population Association of America

Session organizer and chair, Session 137: *Women's Empowerment and
Child Education, Health, and Well-Being (2015)*

Discussant, Session 98: *Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health: Policy
and Intervention (2015)*

Pennsylvania State University

Demography exhibit organizer, USA Science & Engineering Festival (2012)

Demography Methods Workshop Committee (2009-2011)

Co-Chair, Graduate Steering Committee (2009-2010)

Graduate Student Supervision

Co-supervisor, Febbie Chiwasa, LUANAR University, Malawi, MSc, current

Co-supervisor, Joan Chilalika, LUANAR University, Malawi, MSc, current

Committee member for Anika Hannan, Emory University, MPH, 2018

Occasional Reviewer (Academic Journals)

Agriculture and Human Values, American Journal of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene, American
Sociological Review, Feminist Economics, Food Policy, Global Food Security, Journal of
Adolescence and Youth, Journal of Biosocial Science, Journal of Development Studies, Journal
of International Development, Journal of Rural Studies, Journal of Nutritional Science, Maternal
Child Nutrition, PLOS ONE, Population and Development Review, Population Studies, Social
Science and Medicine, Social Science & Medicine-Population Health, Studies in Family
Planning, World Development

Grant Proposal Reviewer

Africa Economic Research Consortium