

FARAH MOHAMMADZADEH VALENCIA

OVERVIEW

Climate change and energy expert with over 12 years experience leading teams and working on strategy, research, policy and infrastructure projects in Latin America and the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa, incl. small island developing states and least developed countries. Fluent in English, German, Spanish, and French with strong communication and interpersonal skills to effectively engage stakeholders and create collaborative networks with diverse organizations, e.g. universities, research institutes, think tanks, multilateral development banks, ministries, and private sector companies. Masters from Sciences Po Paris (2011) in Environment, Sustainable Development and Risk and currently Heinrich Böll Stiftung scholarship recipient to conduct PhD in Climate and Development Economics at the MCC-Berlin (expected Q1/2025). Track record with various types of publications, incl. high-level peer-review journals (Nature Climate Action forthcoming) and keen interest in science-policy interface.

CURRENT POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Spring 2024 Visiting researcher at the **Universidad de los Andes** | Bogotá, Colombia
- Efd grant recipient winner; conduct a nationwide survey experiment on public support for fossil fuel subsidy removal and the importance of compensation mechanisms
- Since 2022 Researcher and PhD candidate at **Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC)** | Berlin, Germany
- Supervisors: Prof. Jan Steckel and Prof. Jan Minx
 - Research focus on public support and political economy of climate policies in LMICs
 - Representative in Change Team to support MCC and Potsdam Institute for Climate (PIK) integration
- Since 2023 Advisor and researcher at **GRA Association** | Paris, France
- President: Dr. Adrien Fabre
 - Contribute to debates and briefs on redistribution of carbon pricing revenues to vulnerable countries
- Since 2022 Associated researcher at **Environment for Development Initiative (Efd)** | Gothenburg, Sweden
- Since 2022 Associated researcher at **Emissions Pricing for Development (EPfd)** | Gothenburg, Sweden
- Since 2022 PhD Scholarship recipient in the Transformation-Cluster at **Heinrich Böll Stiftung** | Berlin, Germany

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2021-2022 Senior climate and energy policy specialist at **Self-Employed** | Berlin, Germany
- Strategic advisement, research, writing, editing; clients incl. World Bank (USA) and adelphi (Germany)
 - Lead author for chapters on Niger, Senegal, Guatemala, and Peru as part of the World Bank “Energy Access Flagship Report” (publication forthcoming)
- 2018-2021 Project Manager EnerTracks at **Agora Energiewende** | Berlin, Germany
- Creator and designer of the flagship [EnerTracks training programs](#) (IKI funded EUR 2.6 M) incl. six-week Fellowship, two-week Study Tour programs, and online courses
 - Led team and collaborated across all departments (international, industry, hydrogen, renewables); developed content and strategic expansion; recruited high-caliber training participants from 26 countries; prepared TORs, procured, and oversaw external consultants
 - Advised on design of Hydrogen & PtX Training program and International Network of Energy Transition Think Tanks
 - Raised additional EUR 1.3 M to create EnerTracks alumni network and expand trainings
 - Co-authored chapters for training content, incl. “Fundamentals of power systems and markets”
- 2016-2018 Energy Specialist Consultant at **World Bank** and **Inter-American Dev. Bank** | Washington DC (USA)
- Managed and supported project leaders in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and closing of energy access (on- and off-grid), renewable energy, and energy efficiency policy and infrastructure projects in Argentina, Burundi, Paraguay, Tanzania, and Zambia

- Stakeholder engagement to identify and develop new policy and infrastructure projects with employees in ministries (Energy and Mining), regulators, utilities, and private sector companies
 - Lead and co-author of several reports, think pieces, and technical notes
- 2015-2016 Development and Marketing Manager at **Faro Energy Ltd.** | Washington, DC (USA) and London, (UK)
- Joined early-stage startup focused on commercial and industrial renewable energy in Latin America
 - Co-led the development of the marketing strategy; managed external software consultants and successfully streamlined business development and marketing strategy process across all regional offices in Brazil, Colombia, and Honduras
 - Prepared market analysis reports on Brazil, Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Mexico
- 2015-2016 Advisor at **Modern Energy** | Washington, DC and Durham, North Carolina (USA)
- Early-stage investment company and partner organization of Faro Energy Ltd
 - Advised on investments for off-grid solar companies in West Africa; prepared data room and conducted due diligence of startups; reviewed and edited investment memo
- 2013-2015 Energy Specialist Consultant at **World Bank** | Washington DC (USA)
- Co-authored study “Making Power Affordable for Africa and Viable for Its Utilities”
 - Supported the management, budgeting, and evaluation of energy access, renewable, hydropower, and energy efficiency projects in Benin, Cameroon, OECS islands (Dominica, St. Lucia, Grenada), Togo, Bolivia, Jamaica, and Mexico
 - Prepared project appraisal documents, technical notes, mid-year reports, TORs, and aide memoires
- 2012-2013 Resource Analyst at **World Bank** | Washington DC (USA)

EDUCATION

- 2022- PhD candidate (expected Q1/2025) in Climate and Development Economics
Brandenburg University of Technology | Cottbus, Germany
Supervisor: Prof. Jan Steckel
PhD Scholarship recipient from Heinrich Böll Stiftung
- 2009-2011 Masters in International Affairs: Environment, Sustainable Development and Risks
Sciences Po Paris | Paris, France
- 2005-2011 Bachelor of Arts in International Relations with a focus of environment in sub-Saharan Africa
Boston University | Boston, Massachusetts USA
Minors: Environmental Studies, French, and Womens Studies
- Spring 2008 Study abroad semester at **Abdou Moumouni University** | Niamey, Niger

PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS AND WORKING PAPERS

- Mohammadzadeh Valencia, F.**, Mohren, C., Ramakrishnan, A., Merchert, M., Minx, J., & Steckel, J. (forthcoming 2024). Public support for carbon pricing policies and revenue recycling options: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Nature Climate Action*. (Peer-reviewed).
- Ramakrishnan, A., Steckel, J. & **Mohammadzadeh Valencia, F.** (2023). An Actionable Research Agenda for Inclusive Low-Carbon Transitions for Sustainable Development in the Global South: Enabling Policy Environment. *Environment for Development*. (Report).
- Steckel, J. & **Mohammadzadeh Valencia, F.** (2022). Chapter: Steps to achieve socially just climate policies at global scale. *A Just Post-COVID-19 World – Cooperative Policies at a Global Level*. Österreichische Entwicklungspolitik 2022. (Report).
- Mohammadzadeh, F.** (2018). Implementation Completion and Results Report for an Energy Efficiency Project in Argentina (P090119). World Bank. (Report).
- Trimble, C. Kojima, M.; Perez, I.; & **Mohammadzadeh, F.**. (2016). “Financial Viability of Electricity Sectors in Sub-Saharan Africa.” World Bank. (Policy Research Working Paper).
- Mohammadzadeh Valencia, F.**, Bez, C., Missbach, L., Castañeda, B., Bonilla, J., Garcia, J., & Steckel, J. Can compensatory policies increase public support for fossil fuel subsidy reform in Colombia? (Working paper).

Mohammadzadeh Valencia, F., Jakob, M., & Steckel, J. The political economy of climate policy in a post-conflict society: a case study of Colombia. (Working Paper).

Mueller-Hansen, F., Ackery, E., Cox, E., Hamann, C., Khanna, T., Lueck, S., **Mohammadzadeh Valencia, F.**, & Schulte, I. A systematic review of public perceptions on carbon dioxide removal. (Working Paper).

ACADEMIC SERVICES AND AWARDS

2024 Young Researcher Award at 24th Global Conference on Environmental Taxation (GCET 24)

Since 2022 Scholarship recipient PhD from Heinrich Böll Stiftung

Since 2022 Reviewer for various journals

2010-2011 Teaching Assistant for “Public Finance and Financial Management” at Sciences Po Paris

2008-2009 Research Assistant on Climate Change in the Biology Department at Boston University

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2024 What Works Climate Solution Conference | Berlin, Germany

2023 Invited Speaker at OEFSE Discussion Forum on Socially Just Climate Policies at a Global Scale – Which Way Forward?

2023 24th Global Conference on Environmental Taxation (GCET 24) | Paris, France

2023 Invited lecturer for course “How to advance climate policy? Economic perspectives on the climate crisis” by Prof. Linus Mattauch at Technical University of Berlin | Berlin, Germany

2023 Doctoral forum with Heinrich Böll Stiftung | Berlin, Germany

2023 Contributor to Perspectives of Color Workshop with Heinrich Böll Stiftung | Frankfurt, Germany

2022 Nordic Environmental Social Science Conference (NESS) | Gothenburg, Sweden

2021 Invited Speaker at Young Climate Collaboration Berlin on Climate Talk: Energy | Berlin, Germany

LANGUAGES

English: Native proficiency (C2)

German: Native proficiency (C2)

French: Full professional proficiency (DALF C2)

Spanish: Full professional proficiency (C1+)

Portuguese: Limited working proficiency (B2)

Farsi: Basic proficiency (A2)

COMPUTER SKILLS

Applications for analysis:

Applications for text & presentation production:

MAXQDA (advanced), R studio (basic), GAMS (basic)

LaTeX, Office 365, Prezi

VOLUNTEERING

Since 2019 Speaker at schools on climate change with BildungsCent e.V. Nachgefragt⁴ | Berlin, Germany

2012-2015 Co-organizer fundraising dinners with Eat for Equity | Washington, DC (USA)