Triple-Win Solutions Combat Hunger and Climate Change



Jennifer Burney Assistant Professor, Global Policy and Strategy

CURRENT RESEARCH

Implementing strategies for adaptation, mitigation, and food security

The World Food Bank reports that agriculture is the main source of income and employment for the 70% of those that live in poverty throughout the world. However, climate change paired with the depletion of natural resources like water and land has created immense challenges to meet the needs of urban populations and sustain communities in rural communities. Dr. Jennifer Burney, Assistant Professor of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego, is developing "triple-win solutions" by providing adaptation, mitigation, and food security simultaneously. Thus, her efforts are helping to combat both climate change and hunger -- two defining problems of our time.

Using a wide range of techniques in her work, and truly interdisciplinary research, Dr. Burney's studies often blend engineering and development as well as atmospheric physics and agriculture. In addition to collaboration with other researchers, postdocs, and graduate students, she also works closely with faculty and NGO partners on the ground. This approach ensures that Dr. Burney always has a suite of projects at different stages -- field, data, and lab. Furthermore, her partnership and diversity in techniques allows her to develop solutions that can be implemented, with special attention to rural and impoverished communities.

Current research includes:

- In the Field:
 - Brazil: Drought can lead to a vicious cycle of overgrazing when livestock farmers can't produce enough forage on their land. Dr. Burney's team looks at the impacts on communities in Brazil of overgrazing, and evaluates interventions that are both sustainable and profitable for communities.

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AFFILIATION

O University of California, San Diego

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Physics, 2007 , Stanford University
- A.B. History and Science, 1999 , Harvard University

AWARDS

- 2015: Bill and Melinda Gates Grand Challenges Explorations Grant recipient (co-PI)
- 2014: Named UC San Diego Hellman Fellow
- 2011: Named National Geographic Emerging Explorer
- 2010: University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellowship (2y)
- 2003: NASA Graduate Student Research Program Fellowship (3yrs)

RESEARCH AREAS

Environment, Atmospheric / Space, Clean Energy, Poverty & Equality

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Jennifer Burney, of the University of California, San Diego, as she studies win-win solutions in climate change and food production. Donations will fund the necessary \$50-60K/year required for graduate students and postdocs, \$50K/round of biometric data, and \$100K/year for analysis costs. In choosing to donate, you will play a role in sustaining science that weaves together theory and effective real-world applications that have a positive impact on the global community.

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