

Raisa Sherif

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Academic Appointment

Senior Scientist, **since 2021**
Department of Public Economics
Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, Munich, Germany

Affiliations

Research Affiliate, IZA (Institute for the Study of Labor), **since 2026**
Invited Researcher, J-PAL, **since 2024**
Affiliate, GAP (Global Action for Policy) Initiative, Northeastern University, **since 2023**

Education

Ph.D. Economics, **2021**
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich

Integrated Masters in Economics, **2009-2014**
Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras)

Research

Publications

- 1 [Impact, Inspiration, or Image: On the Trade-Offs in Pro-Environmental Behaviors](#), with Sven Simon
Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Volume 134, November 2025, 103214
- 2 [Shaping Minds: The Transformative Effects of Theatre-Based Learning](#), with Ritam Chaurey, Sara Constantino, Shantanu Khanna, Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay, Nishith Prakash
Journal of Development Economics, 2025 (*Conditionally accepted*)
- 3 [Sanctioning, Selection, and Pivotality in voting: Theory and Experimental Results](#), with Kai A Konrad
Constitutional Political Economy, 2019

Working papers

- 4 [Intergenerational Transmission of Pro-Environmental Attitudes and Behaviors](#), CESifo Working Paper No. 12499, with Shubhro Bhattacharya, Sara Constantino, Nirajana Mishra, Nishith Prakash, Shwetlena Sabarwal and Dighbijoy Samaddar (*Under review, American Economic Review*)
- 5 [Do perceptions match pollution levels? Evidence from three Indian cities](#), Working Paper of the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance No. 2026 – 02, with Matt Goldberg, Shariq Mohammed (*Under review, Nature Communications Sustainability*)
- 6 [Sorting it Out: Intention-Action Gap in Waste Segregation in Urban India](#), IZA Discussion Paper No. 17508, with Ahana Basistha, Nishith Prakash (*Under review, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*)
- 7 [Are pro-environment behaviours substitutes or complements? Evidence from the field](#), Working Paper of the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance No. 2021-03 (*Submitted*)
- 8 [Why do we vote? Evidence on expressive voting](#), Working Paper of the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, with Afiq bin Oslan (*Submitted*)

Works in progress

Data collection complete / analysis stage

- 9 [Personal Initiative Skills, Gender Gaps, and Social Norms: Experimental Evidence from Rural India](#), with Sofia Amaral, Isis Gaddis, Alreena Pinto, Jayati Sethi
- 10 [Socio-Emotional Skills and Climate Education: A Randomized Evaluation of Air Quality Curriculum in Indian Schools](#), with Ashutosh Bhuradia
- 11 [Ignoring Environmental Impact: Strategic Ignorance to be Seen as Green](#), with Paul Meißner and Sven Simon

Data collection ongoing

- 12 [Information Campaigns, Environment Norms, and Behaviour: Evidence from the Field](#), with Esther Blanco

Funding secured

- 13 [Seasonal Discounting and Underinvestment in Air Pollution Protection Measures: Field Experiment in Delhi](#), with Ahana Basistha and Andreas Ponderfer

Grants

Total grants secured: USD 759,605

2026 Max Planck Society **EUR 30,000**

2025 Max Planck Society **EUR 70,000**

2025 Diligentia Grant, “Seasonal Discounting and Underinvestment in Air Pollution Protection Measures: Field Experiment in Delhi” (Co-PI) **EUR 50,000**

2023 World Bank, “Personal Initiative Skills, Gender Gaps, and Social Norms: Experimental Evidence from Rural India” (Co-PI) **USD 350,000**

2023 J-PAL Learning for All Initiative, “Shaping Minds: The Transformative Effects of Theater-Based Learning” (Co-PI) **USD 104,605**

2023 World Bank, “Intergenerational Transmission of Pro-Environmental Attitudes and Behaviors” (Co-PI) **USD 85,000**

2023 Max Planck Society **EUR 20,000**

2022 Max Planck Society **EUR 30,000**

Awards & Honors

2022 Invitee to the 7th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Economic Sciences

2013 German Academic Exchange Service - WISE Award

2011-13 Institute Merit Prize * 2, IIT Madras

2013 *S. Viswanathan Prize* and *Swati-Jayalakshmi Memorial Award* for academic excellence, IIT Madras

Teaching

Behavioural Environmental Economics, Bachelor Course, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich

Developed and taught the course

Summer Semester 2024

Winter Semester 2023-24

Rating: 4.8/5

International Public Economics, TA - Graduate class, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich

Winter Semester 2017, Rating: 4.8/5

Service

Refereeing

Experimental Economics, Economics of Education Review, American Political Science Review

Conference Organization

Workshop on Pro-Environmental Behaviours: Drivers and Consequences
Harnack House, Berlin

March, 2025

Department Service

Equal Opportunities Officer, Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance
Designed and implemented gender equality and diversity initiatives across the institute

2020–present

Supervision of Bachelor Thesis

2024-25 Marie Cramer, Daniel Froeschl, Christian Haider, Khang Nguyen

2024 Maximilian Marrero

Conferences & Seminar Presentations

2026: University of Konstanz, Strange Political Bedfellows Workshop Berlin, 7th World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists meeting, Cascais (scheduled)

2025: European University Institute; The World Bank; University of Innsbruck; Behavioral Research in Economics Workshop India; 20th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi

2024: Stanford University; European Economic Association Annual Meeting; Mannheim Conference on Energy and the Environment; Experimental Economics for the Environment; Household Economics in Developing Countries Workshop; NEUDC; KDI School-World Bank DIME 5th Development Impact Conference

2023: European Economic Association Annual Meeting; International Meeting on Experimental and Behavioural Social Sciences (IMEBESS); Northeastern University; Symposium on Economic Experiments in Developing Countries

2022: Experimental Sciences Association World Meeting, Boston; Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Economics; 17th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, Delhi

2021: German Economic Association Virtual Annual Meeting; Experimental Sciences Association Global Online Meetings; Center for Rationality and Competition Summer School: Science-Based Policy Advice; 9th Mannheim Conference on Energy and the Environment

2020: Micro Workshop, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich; Behavioral Research in Economics Workshop, India

2018: ESA World Meeting, Berlin; IIPF Annual Congress, Tampere; Public Economic Theory Conference, Hanoi; International Meeting on Experimental and Behavioral Social Sciences (IMEBESS), Florence; European Public Choice Society Conference, Rome; Micro Workshop, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich

2017: Workshop on Public Finance and Political Economy V, Berlin; Development Economics Workshop, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich; Summer School in Experimental Economics, Tinbergen Institute, Amsterdam

Policy Engagement & Impact

World Bank report feature

Research on intergenerational transmission of pro-environmental attitudes featured in the World Bank report *Choosing Our Future: Education for Climate Action*

2025

Green Kerala Mission, Government of Kerala, India

Research Consultant supporting the design of sustainability programs and waste management strategy

2018–2020

Venture Village (Finland/India)

Advisor on school partnerships and curriculum innovation in environmental education

2021–present

Media & outreach – contributor to *Malayala Manorama* and *Financial Express*; co-host of the Max Planck Economics Podcast

Professional Experience

Lindau Mentor Hub

Co-founder

Developed a global mentoring platform linking 200+ scientists and early-career researchers
Funded by the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings and Dieter Schwartz Foundation

2021–present

Barclays Bank

Business Analyst, Interest Rates Derivatives Division

2014–2015

Languages

Programming STATA, R, Python, zTree, OTree, Qualtrics

Human English (fluent), Malayalam (native), German (B2), Hindi (intermediate), Tamil (intermediate)

References

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