

WWZ Research Seminar

Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Basel

Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 12:30, seminar room S 13, HG, WWZ

Prof. Dr. Lorenzo Casaburi, Universität Zürich

"Land Rental Markets: Experimental Evidence from Kenya" (with Michelle Acampora and Jack Willis)

### **Abstract**

In much of Sub-Saharan Africa, land markets operate far from perfectly, with land allocations largely determined by inheritance. Such frictions are argued to affect three broad outcomes: efficiency, by inducing misallocation; equity, by preventing land redistribution and / or land concentration; and structural transformation, by changing plot owners' labor supply. To provide evidence for these effects, we undertake one of the first experiments on land markets, focusing on agricultural rentals in Kenya. We provide landowners with incentives to rent out one of their plots - undoing part of the market wedges - and evaluate the effect of the induced rentals on owner and plot-level outcomes. A further experimental treatment, together with comparisons of renters and owners, enable us to speak to mechanisms.

*All seminars are open to the public and take place in hybrid format with lecturer present. For updates (place, abstracts etc.) kindly visit <https://wwz.unibas.ch/en/research-seminar/>*

*Non-faculty members, who would like to register for the seminars, please send an email to [forschungsseminar-wwz@unibas.ch](mailto:forschungsseminar-wwz@unibas.ch).*