

Elizabeth J. Tennant

Address · 475A Warren Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853

✉ ejt58@cornell.edu 🌐 [liztennant](https://www.linkedin.com/in/liztennant) 🌐 [liztennant.github.io](https://github.com/liztennant) | Updated: February 7, 2025

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Research Associate, Cornell University, Department of Economics: 2021 - present

Core Faculty, Collaboration for International Development Economics Research

Graduate Faculty [minor], Field of Applied Economics & Management

Visiting Lecturer, Applied Economics and Policy (Jan 2025 - present)

Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Economics, Cornell University: 2019 - 2021

EDUCATION

The University of Maryland, Ph.D. Policy Studies August 2019

Princeton University, M.P.A. Economics and Public Policy 2010

Princeton University, Certificate in Science, Technology and Environmental Policy 2010

The College of William & Mary, B.S. Government & Environmental Geology (*High Honors*) 2005

PUBLICATIONS

Tennant, E., Ru, Y., Sheing, P., Matteson, D., Barrett, C.B. (2025). **Microlevel structural poverty maps for southern and eastern Africa**. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 122(6) e2410350122. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2410350122>

Tennant, E. and Gilmore, E. (2024). **Dynamics of organized violence in the wake of tropical cyclones**. *Journal of Peace Research*. Published Online First. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433241291927>

Upton, J., Tennant, E., Fiorella, K. J., & Barrett, C. B. (2023). **COVID-19, Household Resilience, and Rural Food Systems: Evidence from Southern and Eastern Africa**. In C. Béné & S. Devereux (Eds.), *Resilience and Food Security in a Food Systems Context* (pp. 281–320). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-23535-1_9

Barrett, C. B., Ghezzi-Kopel, K., Hoddinott, J., Homami, N., Tennant, E., Upton, J., Wu, T. (2021) **A Scoping Review of the Development Resilience Literature: Theory, Methods and Evidence**. *World Development*. 146, 105612. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2021.105612>

Tennant, E. and Gilmore, E. (2020) **Government effectiveness and institutions as determinants of tropical cyclone mortality**. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(46) 28692-28699. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2006213117>. (*In the Media: Cornell Chronicle, Eos, Scientista*)

Gilmore, E., Risi, L.H., Tennant, E., Buhaug, H. (2018). **Bridging research and policy on climate change and conflict**. *Current Climate Change Reports*, 4(4), 313-319. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40641-018-0119-9>

Yarnall, L., Tennant, E., & Stites, R. (2016). **A framework for evaluating implementation of community college workforce education partnerships and programs.** *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 40(9), 750–766. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10668926.2015.1101405>

WORKING PAPERS

Upton, J., Tennant, E., Michelson, H., and Lentz, E. **Shocks and rural food insecurity: Insights from high frequency data during the COVID-19 pandemic in Malawi.** *Submitted.*

Tennant, E. **Poverty, institutions, and tropical cyclone deaths in the Philippines.**

Ru, Y., Barrett, C.B., Matteson, D., Tennant, E. **Spatial heterogeneity in machine learning-based wealth mapping: where do models under-perform?**

Tennant, E., Michuda, A., Upton, J., Chamorro, A., Engstrom, R., Mann, M.L., Newhouse, D., Weber, M., Barrett, C.B. **Nowcasting shocks to human capital.**

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Tennant, E. and Upton, J. (In Progress). **Features of Resilience in Shock-Prone Environments.**

Tennant, E. (In Progress). **Policy experiments and extreme weather events.**

Tennant, E. (In Progress). **Conflict dynamics in the aftermath of large-scale extreme weather events.**

Schreiber, K., Blom, S., Tennant, E., Upton, J. (In Progress). **Water insecurity in southern Madagascar.**

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2025-2026, anticipated. “The value of Earth observations for poverty and food insecurity monitoring in Malawi and Madagascar.” **Elizabeth Tennant (PI)**, Christopher B. Barrett, and Joanna Upton. Sponsored by the Collaborative Network for Valuing Earth Information (CONVEI), a consortium led by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and funded by the NASA Earth Sciences Division: *ROSES-2021 (A.48) Earth Science Applications: Socioeconomic Assessments*, (selected, not yet awarded: \$122,137).

2022-2025. “Mapping poverty, natural hazards, and critical ecosystem services for equitable and sustainable development.” Christopher B. Barrett, David S. Matteson, Rachel Neugarten, Stephan J. Schmidt, and **Elizabeth Tennant**. Sponsored by the *Academic Venture Fund (AVF)*, the Atkinson Center for Sustainability, Cornell University, (\$159,974).

2017-2018. *The Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship*

2013-2015. *University of Maryland Dean’s Fellowship*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

World Bank Conference: The Pulse of Progress, Washington, DC, December 17-18 2024; United Nations World Data Forum, Medellin, Colombia, November 12-15 2024; American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Sept 5-8 2024; The European Network of Early Career Agricultural Economists (AgEconMeet), Invited Presentation, 8 March 2024; American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA, 11-15 December 2023; North American Meeting of the Peace Science Society (International), Saint Louis, MO, 9-11 November, 2023; Agricultural & Applied Economics

Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 23-25 July 2023; Tata Cornell Institute 10th Anniversary Conference, Ithaca, NY, 10-12 May 2023; North American Meeting of the Peace Science Society (International), Denver, CO, 10-11 Nov 2022; Sustainability and Development Conference, University of Michigan [Virtual], 24-28 Jan 2022; Annual Convention, International Studies Association, Las Vegas, NV [Virtual], 6-9 Apr 2021; Fall Meeting, American Geophysical Union, Online Everywhere, 1-17 Dec 2020; North East Universities Development Consortium, Dartmouth College [Virtual], 6-7 Nov 2020; The Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell SC Johnson College of Business, Cornell University, 17 Dec 2019; Global Health Seminar, Department of Population Health, New York University, 21 May 2019; Junior Scholar Symposium: Climate Change and the Global South. 2019 Annual Convention, International Studies Association, Toronto, CA, 27-30 Mar 2019; Fall Meeting, American Geophysical Union, Washington, DC, 10-14 Dec 2018.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Review: *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, *Climatic Change*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Food Policy*, *Growth and Change*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, *PNAS Nexus*

Co-mentor, [STARS*](#) Fellowship Program (*Structural Transformation of Agriculture and Rural Spaces)

Member of the Research and Learning Technical Working Group for the *Rapid Feedback Monitoring System (RFMS)* [project](#).

Section Editor (with Elisabeth Gilmore) for a special issue of *Current Climate Change Reports* by SpringerLink: "Bridging Research & Policy on Climate Change and Conflict"

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Dept. International Development, Community & Environment, Clark University:	2018-2019
Research Associate	
School of Public Policy, University of Maryland:	2013-2017
Research Assistant	
SRI International (<i>an independent, nonprofit research center</i>):	2010-2016
Economic & Policy Analyst	
United Nations Development Programme (<i>Dhaka, Bangladesh</i>):	Summer 2009
Environment & Sustainable Development Intern	
United States Peace Corps (<i>Taulabe, Honduras</i>):	2006-2008
Municipal Development Volunteer	
Handex Environmental Consulting & Remediation:	2005-2006
Hydrologist	
The National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates:	Summer 2004
Research Intern	