

Duong Phuc Ta

Applied Economist & Data Analyst | Ph.D. Candidate, Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Tech
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 [LinkedIn](#) |  [Github](#) |  [Google Scholar](#)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Applied economist with 15+ years of experience (2010–present) researching agriculture, climate, and trade in Vietnam and the U.S. Skilled in causal inference (difference-in-differences, instrumental variables, double/debiased machine learning) and large-scale survey data analysis using Stata, R, and Python. Author of 7 peer-reviewed publications; experienced translating research into policy-relevant results.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming & Statistical Software:** Stata, R, Python, MATLAB, SQL, LaTeX
- **Econometric & Causal Inference Methods:** Difference-in-Differences, Instrumental Variables, Panel Data Models, Double/Debiased Machine Learning, Cost-Benefit Analysis
- **Machine Learning & Data Science:** Scikit-learn, TensorFlow, Keras
- **Geospatial & Remote Sensing:** Google Earth Engine
- **Reproducibility & Collaboration Tools:** Git, GitHub, Quarto, VSCode

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Virginia Tech**  2023 – present
USA
Graduate Research & Teaching Assistant
 - Lead independent doctoral research on the economic feasibility and carbon sequestration potential of silvopasture systems in the southeastern U.S., combining cost-benefit analysis with biophysical carbon data; manuscript under review; presented at the AAEA-WAEA Annual Meeting (2025).
 - Apply double/debiased machine learning methods to multi-year panel data to estimate the impact of climate stress on U.S. dairy production.
 - Support instruction for undergraduate and graduate courses in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, including lab sections and grading.
- **The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Asia Hub**  2018 – 2022
Vietnam
Research Assistant / Data Analyst (held concurrently with the VIE research post)
 - Managed and analyzed multi-year household survey data on rice-farming adaptation to salinity intrusion across Vietnam's Mekong Delta.
 - Built data-cleaning and econometric analysis pipelines in R and Stata, contributing to two peer-reviewed publications (*Climate and Development*, 2022; *Journal of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association*, 2025).
- **Vietnam Institute of Economics (VIE)**  2010 – 2023
Vietnam
Researcher
 - Conducted applied economic research on trade and structural adjustment, non-farm livelihoods, agricultural income diversification, and climate adaptation among Vietnamese households, using national household and macroeconomic panel datasets.
 - Authored or co-authored 5 peer-reviewed publications in national and international journals (2015–2023), informing policy discussions on rural livelihoods and structural transformation.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Mills, Ta, Ta, Nguyen (2025). "Salinity Inundation, Profitability, and Rice Farming Exits in Mekong Delta of Vietnam". *J. of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Assoc.*, 4(2), 170-186.
- [2] Mills, Le, Ta, Nhu, Vo, Labarta (2022). "Intensive and Extensive Rice Farm Adaptations in Salinity-Prone Areas of the Mekong Delta". *Climate and Development*, 15(2), 162-176.
- [3] Nguyen and Ta (2019). "Trade, Structural Adjustments and Productivity Growth in Vietnam: The Shift to Services". *J. of Southeast Asian Economies*, 36(2), 256-273.
- [4] Ta (2015). "Effects of Capital Flows on Housing Prices in Emerging Economies: A Panel Approach". *Vietnam Socio-Economic Development*, 81.

Plus 3 publications in Vietnamese-language journals (2018–2023) and 2 working papers in progress — full list available upon request or in academic CV.

EDUCATION

- **Virginia Tech** 2023 – Expected 2028
USA
Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics
- **University of Greenwich** 2014 - 2015
United Kingdom
MSc in Business and Financial Economics
- **The National Economics University** 2004 - 2008
Vietnam
Bachelor in Economics

CERTIFICATIONS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Certifications: Machine Learning Specialization, Stanford University via Coursera (3 courses), 2025

Affiliations: Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA)

Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (fluent)