

DR. SEEMA ARORA

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SUMMARY

Dr. Arora is an Expert in two distinct areas Development economics and Environmental Economics.

Financial Inclusion/Financial Literacy/Digital Networks

She most recently has worked on evaluating financial inclusion policies delivered via technology. She has academic experience first as Assistant Professor at the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University and then as Visiting Faculty and Scholar at Stanford University. She is now the Director of the Center for International Development Research and Environmental Economics in Palo Alto. Currently, she is the Designate Academic Expert and is leading some studies related to financial inclusion delivered via technology at the Reserve Bank of India, Indias Central Bank.

Her latest report may be downloaded at www.cridee.org/Seema_Arora.Financial_Inclusion_Report_RBI.pdf

Publications In progress

- An Evaluation of Technologically Delivered Financial Services: Understanding the uptake of formal finance. Evidence-Based evaluation. Final Report submitted April 2014. Presented in Mumbai, Reserve Bank of India, 2014.
- State of Technology and Value Proposition in business correspondent led financial services: Milestones and Roadblocks. March 2014.
- Design of Financial Literacy Module, May 2014.
- A Framework for Technologically Delivered Financial Intermediation In India.

Environment and Sustainability

She received her PhD in Environmental Economics in 1993. For the USEPA, she evaluated a new approach to environmental regulations, namely voluntary actions by the firms (33/50 program) and aided by public disclosure of information (the Toxics Release Inventory). Her research explained why firms might voluntarily over-comply with environmental regulations. She has published extensively in this field. She proposed the design, methods and data sources to undertake an evaluation. As a result of her work, she was named Gilbert White Fellow at Resources for the Future, Advisor to the USEPA for the 33/50 program and asked to serve on the Consultative Panel for NAFTA, Toxics Program to see applicability of these findings for Canada and Mexico. She has served as Consultant to the World Bank, where she evaluated the feasibility of information based policies in Asian countries. Following this work, she evaluated the impact of environmental actions on the stock market performance both in the short run and in the long run. The publications below relate to that work. A number of articles are re-appearing in print as they have been selected for the Library of Critical Writings.

Open recommendation from William E. Reilly, USEPA Administrator 1989-1993 under President Bush.

”Dr. Arora is known for a number of areas affecting the intersection of environment and economics, most notably the effect of incentives promoted in voluntary programs in fostering over-compliance with environmental objectives. Dr. Aroras research was the first in-depth analysis which documented the competitive advantages of a companys being regarded as environmentally progressive. Dr. Aroras research was valuable to EPA executives in designing successor voluntary programs. I am not aware of other researchers in this field who can claim early recognition of this public-private collaboration. She has long been in the forefront of environmental economics and her research commands respect from academics and policymakers alike.”

Past Publications

- Interim Results from FLOSS-US, the 2003 Web-based Survey of Free and Open Source Developers http://www-siepr.stanford.edu/programs/OpenSoftware_David/Interim%20Results.html. Funded by National Science Foundation.
- First Full Findings from FLOSS-US: The Free/Libre and Open Source Developer Survey for 2003 [http://www-siepr.stanford.edu/programs/OpenSoftware_David/David-Waterman-Arora\(2003\)_abs.html](http://www-siepr.stanford.edu/programs/OpenSoftware_David/David-Waterman-Arora(2003)_abs.html)
- Arora, S. Green and Competitive? Evidence from the Stock Market, Stanford Business School Working paper # 1650. <http://gsbapps.stanford.edu/researchpapers/library/RP1650.pdf>
- Arora, S. Pollution as Innovation: Measuring the Long Run Stock Performance, Stanford Business School working paper # 1651.
- Arora, S. (2000) Comment on NASD rule-making (NASD-99-53) Implications for competition.
- Arora, S., & Cason, TN (1999). "Do Community Characteristics Influence Environmental Outcomes? Evidence from the Toxics Release Inventory." *Southern Economic Journal*. (April). Citations 131.
- Arora, S., & Cason, TN. "Why do Firms Volunteer to Exceed Environmental Regulations?" (1996) *Land Economics*. <http://www.rff.org/Publications/Pages/PublicationDetails.aspx?PublicationID=17559>
- Selected for publication in Corporate Strategies for Managing Environmental Risk (Bernard Sinclair-Desgagn, editor) 2004. Citations : 438.
- Arora, S., & Cason, TN. "An Experiment in Voluntary Environmental Regulation: Participation in EPA's 33/50 Program." (1995) *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0095069685710182> Selected for re-publication in *The International Library of Critical Writings in Economics: Recent Developments in Environmental Economics (2004)*. Citations 384
- Arora, S. and Cason, TN (1999) "A Voluntary Approach to Environmental Regulation: The 33/50 Program" (with Seema Arora), in W. Oates (ed.), *The RFF Reader in Environmental and Resource Management (1999)*
- Arora, S., & Gangopadhyay, S. (1995). "Toward a Theoretical Model of Voluntary Overcompliance." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*. Citations 460.
- Maureen L. Cropper, Nathalie B. Simon, Anna Alberini, Seema Arora, and P.K. Sharma , "The Health Benefits of Air Pollution Control in Delhi," *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, Volume 79, Number 5, pp. 1625-1629.
- Women and Migration: Evidence from the Construction Industry, *Sankhya*. 1988.

She has a proven track record in teaching at the undergraduate and graduate level at Stanford and at Owen where she was consistently among the top 10 percent according to student evaluations. As a Member of the Committee on Instruction, she contributed to changes in curriculum design at Owen. She developed an Environmental curriculum at Vanderbilt that was ranked as one of the top in Business Week Rankings of Business Schools.

Open source software networks

EDUCATION

University Of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Ph.D. Economics, 1993. Environmental Economics, Development Economics.

Delhi School Of Economics, New Delhi, India

M.A., Economics, 1988.

St. Stephen's College, New Delhi, India

B.A., Economics Honors, 1986.