

Dr. Sara Delaney

Position: Postdoctoral Researcher
Working Group "Co-Design of Change and Innovation"



Academic education and scientific degrees

- 08/2021 – 08/2025 PhD, Ecology and Environmental Sciences
University of Maine
Dissertation: Collaborative Connections: Climate adaptation in farmer and agricultural advisor social networks
- 09/2007 – 09/2008 MA, Science Society and Development
Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex
Thesis: The Sanitation Equation: A story of two contrasting approaches and their chosen variables for success
- 08/2000 – 05/2004 BS, Biological and Environmental Engineering
Cornell University

Professional experience

- Since 09/25 Researcher, at ZALF e.V., Müncheberg, Germany
Agroecology Partnership – Methodological guidance for developing and improving Agroecology Living Labs
- 08/2021 – 08/2025 Research Assistant at University of Maine, Agroecology Lab, Maine, US
- 09/2017 – 08/2020 Farmer Engagement and Expansion Lead, at One Acre Fund, Jinja, Uganda and Nyeri, Kenya
- 02/2012 – 08/2017 Senior International Program Officer for Food Security, Episcopal Relief & Development, New York, US
- 11/2010 – 11/2011 Knowledge Management Consultant, UN-IFAD, Rome, Italy
- 08/2008 – 09/2010 Research Associate, Imperial College, London, UK
- 01/2005 – 04/2007 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project Manager, US Peace Corps, M'Pedougou, Mali

Research Profile

Background

- Climate change impacts on agriculture and processes for adaptation and mitigation
- Transdisciplinary research on education, training, and social drivers of farmer innovation
- Social networks and their role in decision-making, norms, and persistence of behavior

Research Activities

- Analyzing and supporting co-design processes in agroecology living labs
- Studying the role of participatory research and planning in sustainability transitions

Teaching

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| 08/2024 – 05/2025 | Seminar in Sustainability Solutions, University of Maine |
| 08/2022 – 12/2022 | Sustainable Agriculture, University of Maine |

Websites

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