

Curriculum Vitae



Work experience

- Dates January 2020 – ongoing
- Occupation or position held **Ikerbasque Research Fellow – Tenure Track**
- Main activities and responsibilities Computational models of complex systems for the analysis of ecosystem services, human mobility and security, and natural resource management. Research group leader on coupled human-natural systems. Managing director of the Integrated Modelling Partnership (<http://www.integratedmodelling.org/>) hosted at BC3 and responsible for the ARIES (ARTificial Intelligence for Ecosystem Services) platform.
- Employer **Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3)**, Bizkaia, Spain - **co-funded Ikerbasque Research Fellowship**
- Dates January 2016 – December 2019
- Occupation or position held **Associate Researcher**
- Main activities and responsibilities Research on the sustainability of coupled human-environmental systems. Main methods: data/model integration and agent-based modelling. Management of the ARIES project <http://aries.integratedmodelling.org/>. PI of the ALICE Interreg Atlantic (European Territorial Cooperation) Project on Blue and Green Infrastructure <http://project-alice.com/>.
- Employer **Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3)**, Bizkaia, Spain - **co-funded Juan de la Cierva incorporación Fellowship** (Grant IJCI-2014-22590, <10% success rate).
- Dates January 2013 – December 2015
- Occupation or position held **Post-Doctoral Researcher**
- Main activities and responsibilities Analysis of ecosystem services, agriculture and food security, flood risk reduction, through dynamic spatial modeling integrating agent-based modeling, and Bayesian networks. Modelling Ecosystem Services for decision support with the ARIES technology. Contribution to the UK NERC ESPA ASSETS (Attaining Sustainable Services from Ecosystems through Trade-off Scenarios) project.
- Employer **Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3)**, Bizkaia, Spain - **co-funded Marie Curie Actions** (People -- Grant agreement n° 267230 by BizkaiaTalent).
- Dates October 2011 – December 2012
- Occupation or position held **Expert** of the Italian Delegation for the **Alpine Convention Tourism Protocol**.
- Main activities and responsibilities Participation to the drafting of the Fourth Report on the State of the Alps about Sustainable Tourism.
- Employer **Italian Ministry for Environment and Territory and Sea and Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change (CMCC)**
- Dates August 2011 – December 2012
- Occupation or position held **Post-Doctoral Researcher** for the KULTURisk (EC Seventh Framework Program) research project on hydrological disasters integrated risk management. From November 2011, **Honorary fellow** in environmental economics.
- Main activities and responsibilities Economic analysis of floods and landslides and integrated assessment of the risk prevention measures. Research on environmental economics, project appraisal and agent-based modeling.
- Employer **Ca' Foscari University of Venice**, Department of Economics.

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| Dates | January 2011 – July 2011 |
| Occupation or position held | Post-Doctoral Researcher for the FIUMI project of the Lombardy Region on the analysis of the pollution impacts and of the measures of intervention for the Olona, Seveso, Lambro and Mella river basins. |
| Main activities and responsibilities | Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of the measures of intervention through a multi-criteria approach applied to a Decision Support System (mulinoDSS). |
| Employer | Polytechnic University of Milan , Department of Environmental Engineering. |
| Dates | May 2009 – October 2011. |
| Occupation or position held | Scientific consultant for the ClimAlpTour project concerning the impacts of Climate Change on Tourism in the Alps. European Territorial Cooperation, Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013. |
| Main activities and responsibilities | Project management, data analysis, development and application of a Decision Support System (mulinoDSS) in various participatory decision making processes. |
| Employer | Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change (CMCC) , Venice. Division Climate Impacts and Policies (CIP). |
| Dates | October 2008 – March 2009 |
| Occupation or position held | Trainee at the Directorate C, Climate Change & Air, Unit C2. |
| Main activities and responsibilities | Research on market based instruments including Greenhouse gas emissions trading |
| Name and address of employer | European Commission, DG Environment , Bruxelles, Belgium. |
| Dates | February 2007 – October 2007 |
| Occupation or position held | United Nations Volunteers Internship Programme . |
| Main activities and responsibilities | Researcher and Programme Manager Assistant. Contributed to the elaboration of a strategic framework for the green development of Tobago, with focus on the tourism sector . Developed a strategy for energy security in Trinidad. |
| Employer | United Nations Development Programme , Office of Trinidad and Tobago, Department of Energy and Environment. |

Education and training

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| Dates | October 2007 – March 2011 |
| Title of qualification awarded | Ph.D. in Analysis and Governance of Sustainable Development. Awarded with the title of " Doctor Europaeus ". |
| Principal subjects covered | Environmental Economics, MultiCriteria Analysis, Agent-Based Modelling, Climate Change, Tourism Planning, Decision Support Systems, Water management, Global Governance. Dissertation: " <i>Three essays on agent-based modelling and climate change adaptation</i> " |
| Organisation providing education | Ca' Foscari and IUAV Universities of Venice School for Advanced Studies in Venice Foundation |
| Dates | October 2003 – March 2006 |
| Title of qualification awarded | Master's Degree in Economics and Management of Environment and Tourism. |
| Principal subjects covered | Dissertation: " <i>Tourism Planning. A case of mature tourism in a developing country: Balneario Camboriù, Brazil</i> ". Final mark: 110/110 with honor. |
| Organisation providing education | University of Trento , Department of Economics. |
| Dates | September 2000 – September 2003 |
| Title of qualification awarded | Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Management. |
| Organisation providing education | University of Padova , Department of Economics. |

Personal skills and competences

Mother tongue **Italian** (A1 Min – C2 Max)
 Self-assessment

| | Understanding | | Speaking | | Writing | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|--|
| | Listening | Reading | Spoken interaction | Spoken production | | |
| English | C1 | C1 | C1 | C1 | C1 | |
| Spanish | B2 | B2 | B2 | B1 | B1 | |
| Portuguese | B1 | B1 | A2 | A2 | A1 | |
| French | A1 | A1 | A1 | A1 | - | |

Teaching skills and competences Lectured at various **seminars and courses** for the Ca' Foscari University and for different Summer Schools (BC3, IUAV and University of Padova) and High Schools (in Italy and Spain), in English, in Spanish and in Italian. Supervised six Master's and PhD's dissertations. Organized seven editions (2013-2019) of the BC3 school on ecosystem services <http://springuniversity.bc3research.org/>. Trained more than 100 people, at Metro Vancouver, ICIMOD (Kathmandu), CSIR (Western Cape), NIES (Tokyo), ISPRA (Rome).

Organisational skills and competences **Project cycle management**, including conceptualization and budgeting. Organization and direction of participatory consultation processes. Communication management. I'm managing director of the Integrated Modelling Partnership hosted at BC3 <http://www.integratedmodelling.org/> and co-managing one of the five research lines of the centre. I collaborated to 12 collaborative research projects funded by Horizon 2020, FP7, Interreg, UK NERC programs, among others.

Computer skills and competences Programming with domain specific languages for system modelling. Softwares and packages: Simile, Vensim (**system dynamics**); QuantumGis, ArcGis (**geographic information system**); NetLogo (**agent-based modelling**); R (**data analysis and modelling**); Pajek, Gephi (**social network analysis**); mulinoDSS (**multi-criteria decision support system**); GeNie (**Bayesian networks**); ARIES, k.LAB (**semantic meta-modelling**); StarUML (**unified modelling language**); Git (**version control and code sharing**), WEKA (**Machine Learning**). Basic knowledge of **Java**, familiarity with **Eclipse** IDE.

Research stays
 July-August 2017: **Short sabbatical** at CSIR, Western Cape, South Africa.
 January 2016: Grant awarded for workshops and **short sabbatical** stays at the Wageningen school of social sciences (WASS).
 May 2010 – August 2010: **Visiting Scholar** at the Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Nova University of Lisbon.
 November 2009 – February 2010: **Visiting Scholar** at the Australian National University, Resource in Asia and Pacific Programme, Canberra.
 September 2005 – December 2005: Universidade do Vale do Itajaí, Balneario Camboriú, Santa Catarina, Brazil. Tourism Department. **Scholarship awarded** for thesis research.
 September 2002 – February 2003: Universidade Moderna do Porto, Portugal. Department of Economics. **Erasmus** European exchange project.

-----Selected Publications

- Balbi S., Selomane O., Sitas N., Blanchard R., Kotzee I., O'Farrell P. and Villa F. (2019). Human dependence on natural resources in rapidly urbanising South African regions. **Environmental Research Letters**, <http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aafe43>
- Martínez-López, J., Bagstad, K.J., Balbi, S., Magrath, A., Voigt, B., Athanasiadis, I., Pascual, M., Willcock, S. and Villa, F. (2019). Towards globally customizable ecosystem service models. **Science of the Total Environment**, 650: 2325-2336. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969718338737>

- Dobbie, S., Schreckenberg, K., Dyke, J., Schaafsma, M. and Balbi, S. (2018). Agent-based modelling to assess community food security and sustainable livelihoods. **Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation**, 21(1):1-23. <http://jasss.soc.surrey.ac.uk/21/1/9.html>
- Willcock, S., Martínez-López, J., Hooftman, D.A., Bagstad, K.J., Balbi, S., Marzo, A., Prato, C., Sciandrello, S., Signorello, G., Voigt, B. and Villa, F. (2018). Machine learning for ecosystem services. **Ecosystem Services**, 33B: 165-174. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2212041617306423>
- Villa, F., Balbi, S., Athanasiadis, I.N., Caracciolo, C. (2017). Semantics for interoperability of distributed data and models: Foundations for betterconnected information. **F1000Research** 6, 686. <https://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.11638.1>
- Balbi, S. (2017). Traveling for happiness, moving to adapt: An agent-based perspective on population mobility. **BC3 Working Paper Series, WP No. 2017/03**.
- Amelung, B., Student, J., Nicholls, S., Lamers, M., Baggio, R., Boavida-Portugal, I., Johnson, P., de Jong, E., Jan Hofstede, G., Pons, M., Steiger, R., Balbi, S. (2017). The value of agent-based modelling for assessing tourism–environment interactions in the Anthropocene. **Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability**. 23:46-53. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S187734351630104X>
- Sun, Z., Lorscheid, I., Millington, J. D.; Lauf, S., Magliocca, N. R., Groeneveld, J., Balbi S., et al. (2016). Simple or complicated agent-based models? A complicated issue. **Environmental Modelling & Software**, 86: 56-67. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364815216306041>
- Balbi, S., Villa, F., Mojtahed, V., Hegetschweiler, K. T., Giupponi, C. (2016). A spatial Bayesian network model to assess the benefits of early warning for urban flood risk to people. **Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences**, 16: 1323-1337. <http://www.nat-hazards-earth-syst-sci.net/16/1323/2016/nhess-16-1323-2016.html>
- Balbi S., del Prado A., Gallejones P., Geevan C.P., et al. (2015). Modeling trade-offs among ecosystem services in agricultural production systems. **Environmental Modelling & Software**, 72: 314–326. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364815214003740>
- Müller B., Balbi S., Buchmann C.M., De Sousa L., et al. (2014). Standardised and transparent model descriptions for agent-based models: Current status and prospects. **Environmental Modelling & Software**, 55: 156-163. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364815214000395>
- Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention (2013). Sustainable tourism in the Alps. Report on the State of the Alps. Innsbruck. Alpine Convention. <http://www.alpconv.org/en/AlpineKnowledge/RSA/tourism/default.html>
- Balbi S., Giupponi C., Perez P., Alberti M. (2013). A spatial agent-based model for assessing strategies of adaptation to climate and tourism demand changes in an alpine tourism destination, **Environmental Modelling & Software**, 45: 29-51. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364815212002514>
- Balbi S., Giupponi C. (2010). Agent-Based Modelling of Socio-Ecosystems: A Methodology for the Analysis of Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainability. **International Journal of Agent Technologies and Systems (IJATS)**, 2(4): 17-38. <http://www.igi-global.com/article/agent-based-modelling-socio-ecosystems/47414>

-----Selected Talks

- Invited session talk:* Philosophy of Globally Customizable ARIES models. **ESP10** (Ecosystem Services Partnership). Hannover, 21/10/2019.
- Invited modeller and teacher:* **Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS)** summer school on **Migration**. Cagliari 10/06/2019. <https://bigsss-css.jacobs-university.de/migration2019/keynote-speakers-experts/>
- Invited talk:* A Semantic Web for Sustainability. **Oxford Center for Tropical Forest**, 11/05/2018.
- Invited session talk:* A decade of ARIES: adapting ecosystem service models to decision making needs. **ESP** (Ecosystem Services Partnership) **EU 2018**. San Sebastian, 17/10/2018.
- Invited session talk:* Modelling beneficiaries in dynamic Ecosystem Services assessments. **ICMaSS2017** International Conference on Materials and Systems for Sustainability 2017. **Nagoya University**, 01/10/2017.
- Session talk:* Integrating human agency and ecosystem services: an ABM perspective on food. 8th Intl. Congress on Env. Modelling and Software (**iEMSs 2016**). Toulouse, 12/07/2016.
- Invited talk:* Complexity oriented approaches and environmental sustainability policy: experiences from tourism, agriculture, and flood protection. **Wageningen school of social sciences (WASS)**, 21/11/2016.
- Invited session talk:* Incorporating biophysical model output into economic models. International Conference of Agricultural Economists (**ICAE2015**). Milan, 10/08/2015.