Ben Balmford

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POSITIONS HELD

Current position

Lecturer (Assistant Professor) *September 2024 - present*
LEEP Institute, Economics Department, University of Exeter Business School (ESE Faculty)

Previous positions

Postdoctoral Research Fellow *October 2022 - August 2024*
Postdoctoral Research Associate *September 2021 - September 2022*
Dragon Capital Research Programme on Biodiversity Economics
LEEP Institute, Economics Department, University of Exeter Business School

EDUCATION

LEEP Institute, University of Exeter Business School *September 2017 - September 2021*
PhD in Economics: "Mechanism Design in Payment for Ecosystem Service Schemes"
Supervisors: Prof Brett Day, Prof Ian Bateman, Dr Amy Binner, Dr Greg Smith

University of Oxford *October 2013 - June 2016*
BA in Biological Sciences First Class

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

17. T. Ball, **B. Balmford**, A. Balmford, D. Rinaldo, B. Brook, P. Visconti, R. Green A general relationship between extinction risk and carrying capacity. *Nature Communications*, forthcoming
16. **B. Balmford**, B. Day, I. Bateman, and G. Smith. Incentivizing efficient effort when monitoring individuals is costly. *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, 13(1):155–193, 2026
15. C.A. Emogor, S.K. Wasser, L. Coad, **B. Balmford**, D.J. Ingram, A. Wijesinghe, and A. Balmford. Pangolin hunting in Southeast Nigeria motivated more by local meat consumption than international demand for scales. *Nature Ecology and Evolution*, 2025
14. A. Balmford, T.S. Ball, **B. Balmford**, I.J. Bateman, G. Buchanan, G. Cerullo, F. D'albertas, A. Eyres, B. Filewod, B. Fisher, J.M.H. Green, K.S. Hemes, J. Holland, M.S. Lam, R. Naidoo, A. Pfaff, T.H. Ricketts, F. Sanderson, T.D. Searchinger, B.B.N. Strassburg, T. Swinfield, and D.R. Williams. Time to fix the biodiversity leak. *Science*, 387(6735):720–722, 2025
13. C.A. Emogor, D.J. Ingram, A. Balmford, R.J. Fletcher, D. Detoeuf, **B. Balmford**, D.O. Agbor, and L. Coad. Predictors of Frequency and Success of Wild Meat Hunting Trips and Carcass Prices in an African Biodiversity Hotspot. *Human Ecology*, 2025
12. A.R. Binner, E.T. Addicott, **B. Balmford**, B.H. Day, M.C. Mancini, D. Williamson, and I.J. Bateman. Using the natural capital framework to integrate biodiversity into sustainable, efficient and equitable environmental-economic decision-making. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 380(1917), 1 2025
11. M.C. Mancini, R.M. Collins, E.T. Addicott, **B. Balmford**, A. Binner, J.W. Bull, B.H. Day, F. Eigenbrod, S.O.S.E. zu Ermgassen, M. Faccioli, C. Fezzi, B. Groom, E.J. Milner-Gulland, N. Owen, D. Tingley, E. Wright, and I.J. Bateman. Biodiversity offsets perform poorly for both people and nature, but better approaches are available. *One Earth*, 12 2024
10. I.J. Bateman, A. Binner, E.T. Addicott, **B. Balmford**, F.H.T. Cho, G. C. Daily, A. De-Gol, S. Eisenbarth, M. Faccioli, H. Ferguson-Gow, S. Ferrini, C. Fezzi, K. Gannon, B. Groom, A.B. Harper, A. Harwood, J. Hillier, M.F. Hulme, C.F. Lee, L. Liuzzo, A. Lovett, M.C. Mancini, R. Matthews, J.I.L. Morison,

N. Owen, R.G. Pearson, S. Polasky, G. Siriwardena, P. Smith, P. Snowdon, P. Tippett, S.H. Vetter, S. Vinjili, C.A. Vossler, R.T. Watson, D. Williamson, and B.H. Day. How to make land use policy decisions: Integrating science and economics to deliver connected climate, biodiversity, and food objectives. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 121(49), 12 2024

9. C.A. Emogor, L. Coad, **B. Balmford**, D.J. Ingram, D. Detoeuf, R.J. Fletcher, I. Imong, A. Dunn, and A. Balmford. Changes in wild meat hunting and use by rural communities during the COVID-19 socio-economic shock. *Conservation Letters*, 9 2024
8. **B. Balmford**, M. Marino, and O.P. Hauser. Voting Sustains Intergenerational Cooperation, Even When the Tipping Point Threshold is Ambiguous. *Environmental and Resource Economics*, 87(1):167–190, 1 2024
7. **B. Balmford**, J. Collins, B. Day, L. Lindsay, and J. Peacock. Pricing rules for PES auctions: Evidence from a natural experiment. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 122, 10 2023
6. A. Balmford, B. Fisher, G.M. Mace, D.S. Wilcove, and **B. Balmford**. Analogies and lessons from COVID-19 for tackling the extinction and climate crises. *Current Biology*, 30(17):R969–R971, 9 2020
5. **B. Balmford**, J.D. Annan, J.C. Hargreaves, M. Altoè, and I.J. Bateman. Cross-Country Comparisons of Covid-19: Policy, Politics and the Price of Life. *Environmental and Resource Economics*, 76(4):525–551, 8 2020
4. **B. Balmford**, I.J. Bateman, K. Bolt, B. Day, and S. Ferrini. The value of statistical life for adults and children: Comparisons of the contingent valuation and chained approaches. *Resource and Energy Economics*, 57:68–84, 8 2019
3. **B. Balmford**, R.E. Green, M. Onial, B. Phalan, and A. Balmford. How imperfect can land sparing be before land sharing is more favourable for wild species? *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 56(1):73–84, 1 2019
2. I.J. Bateman and **B. Balmford**. Public funding for public goods: A post-Brexit perspective on principles for agricultural policy. *Land Use Policy*, 79:293–300, 12 2018
1. **B. Balmford**, J. Balmford, A. Balmford, S. Blakeman, A. Manica, and R.M. Cowling. Diurnal versus nocturnal pollination of Brunsvigia gregaria R.A. Dyer (Amaryllidaceae) at a coastal site. *South African Journal of Botany*, 72(2):291–294, 5 2006

Book chapters:

Prior to appointment:

1. D.W. Smith, K.A. Cassidy, D.R. Stahler, D.R. MacNulty, Q. Harrison, **B. Balmford**, E.E. Stahler, E.E. Brandell, and T. Coulson. Population dynamics and demography. In *Yellowstone wolves: science and discovery in the world's first national park*. University of Chicago Press, 2020

WORKING PAPERS

• *Aligning biodiversity metrics with public preferences for environmental policy.* With S. Meier, M. Faccioli and B. Groom. **Reject and Resubmit, currently under review** *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*

• *Bringing the economics of biodiversity into policy and decision-making: A target and cost-based approach to pricing biodiversity.* With B Groom, J Lowe, S zu Ermgassen, EJ Milner-Gulland, T Atkins, A Binner, A Butler, B Day, N Duffus, R Hails, H Maier-Peveling, M Mancini, S Meier, H Nicholas, D Rinaldo, R Smale, P Snowdon, F Venmans, IJ Bateman.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- *Forecasting additionality in dynamic forests.* With V. Inkinen et al.
- *Understanding the location bias of protected areas.* With S. Meier and V. Inkinen
- *Designing markets for bundled environmental goods.* With L. Lindsay and B. Day
- *Comparing sealed-bid and clock multi-unit reverse auctions.* With L. Lindsay.
- *Bidding in auctions with divided attention.* With L. Lindsay.

RESEARCH FUNDING

External research funding

- £2.4m (£391,999 to Exeter), EU Horizon, FAIR-PES, Co-I. September 2026.
- £102,499, Defra, Biodiversity Target and Cost Approach Scoping project, Co-I. September 2025.
- £1m, Dragon Capital, Biodiversity Chair Phase 2, Co-I. July 2025.
- £1m, NERC, Economics of Biodiversity grant - The Economics of Biodiversity Additionality, Co-I. July 2022.
- £62.5k NERC, seed corn grant - Simultaneous Multiple Service Markets, Co-I. February 2022.
- £50k NERC synthesis grant - Synthesising understanding of the economics of biodiversity. Co-I. December 2021.
- £90k South West Water - University of Exeter Business School funded PhD studentship. September 2017.

Internal research funding

- £3,987, UEBS Seedcorn funding 25/26 round, PI.
- £2,200, UEBS Seecorn funding 24/25 round, Co-PI.
- £22,759, ESRC, IAA impact accelerator - Exploring auction design in the context of water quality improvements, Co-I. June 2019.

Commercial revenue

- £7,493, EnTrade, Cornwall LINC Nature Market - Matching And Surplus Allocation report, Co-I. February 2026.
- £10,000, EnTrade, IP Licence agreements, £10,000, Co-I. April & July 2025.
- £6,000, ARUP, GLA Technical and Economic Deep Dives, Co-I. October 2024.
- £45,127, ARUP, Stacking of Nature Market Credits, Co-I. October 2023.
- £13,445, ARUP, GLA SUDs streetwords, Co-I. March 2023.
- £18k, ARUP, DCWW catchment markets, Co-I. November 2022.
- £1,435, ARUP, Nutrient Credit Feasibility, Co-I. May 2022.
- £11,388, EnTrade, platform development, Co-I. August 2021.

Funding for conferences organised

- £20k (£12k external) for BIOECON September 2022
- £30k (£6k external) for LEEPin and HMT-Defra "How to make decisions in policy and practice: Applying Natural Capital the Green Book way" conference, June and April 2019, respectively

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

§ Used in an Impact Case Study for REF2021; † underpins an Impact Case Study shortlisted for REF2029.

- †Cornwall Net Gain Market – design and implementation, 2025-present
- Defra Biodiversity Target and Cost Approach Scoping Project, 2025-present
- †Bristol and Avon Biodiversity Net Gain Market – design and implementation, 2022-present
- †Somerset Nutrient Neutrality Market – design and implementation, 2021-present
- GLA SUDS Market – scoping and design, 2023-2025
- †Defra Stacking of Environmental Services – scoping report, 2023-2024
- Welsh Water Catchment Market – scoping report, 2022-23
- Defra Solent Nutrient Neutrality Market – design, 2022-23

- §,†Forestry Commission Woodland £50m Carbon Guarantee Auction – design, 2019–2024
- §Poole Harbour Nitrogen Auction – design, 2019-2021

TEACHING

Lecturer and Module co-lead for Economics and Sustainability *(MBA)*	*2025-present*
Lecturer and Module lead for Environmental Economics and Sustainability *(Master's)*	*2025-present*
Lecturer and Module lead for Environmental Economics and Sustainability *(3rd year undergraduate)*	*2025-present*
Lecturer and Module lead for Basic Quantitive Methods *(1st year undergraduate)*	*2024-present*
Lecturer for Topics in Advanced Economics *(Master's)*	*2026-present*
Academic Tutor for 8 students on Work Placements	*2025-present*
Personal Tutor for $\sim$ 30 students in Economics programmes	*2024-present*
Guest lecture on Environmental Economics and Sustainability *(3rd year undergraduate & Master's)*	*2023*

In addition, I co-developed the BEEM164 module that unlocked the Masters pathway in Environmental Economics for 2026/27.

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Member of Flight Levy Task and Finish Group,	*2023 - 2024*
BIOECON organising committee	*2025 - present*
Business School Sustainability Group, Economics Department Representative	*2025 - present*
ESE Faculty Sustainability Group, Economics Department Representative	2025 - present
Member of Advocate Climate Taskforce	2024 - present
Exeter Environmental Economics seminar organiser	2020 - present
Member of Biodiversity Task and Finish Group,	2023 - 2024

Conference organisation:

BIOECON 2025*, University of Cambridge, 3rd-6th September 2022* - **Co-organiser**. See here.

BIOECON 2022*, University of Exeter Business School, 3rd-6th September 2022* - **Lead organiser**. See here.

LEEPin2019*, University of Exeter Business School, 24th-25th June 2019* - **Lead organiser.** See here.

How to make decisions in policy and practice: Applying Natural Capital the Green Book way*, The Royal Society, London, 26th April 2019* - **Organiser**. An invite-only conference organised with HM Treasury and the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

CONFERENCES AND INVITED SEMINARS

Invited seminars:

2026: LSE (Geography). 2024: University of Trento; Kyoto University (virtual); Oxford University (Department of Biological Sciences)

Conference presentations:

2025: EAERE, BIOECON. 2024: EAERE, BIOECON. 2023: EAERE, BIOECON, ESA. 2022: EAERE, AERE. 2021: BIOECON, SWELL Seminar Series, SWAN. 2020: Queensland-Exeter seminar series, ESA, EnvEcon. 2019: EAERE. 2018: REECAP.