

# ASHER SIEBERT, PhD

## SENIOR SCIENTIST ON LOSS AND DAMAGE CLIMATE ANALYTICS

### CONTACT

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🌐 [LinkedIn - asher-siebert](https://www.linkedin.com/in/asher-siebert)

🌐 [climateanalytics.org](https://climateanalytics.org)  
[asclimateservices.org](https://asclimateservices.org)

### SKILLS

- **Quantitative/geographic data analysis:** MATLAB, R, Python, Ingrid (language of the IRI Data Library), CPT (Climate Predictability Tool), PyCPT (Python-CPT), CDT (Climate Data Tools), GIS
- **Other/General:** Microsoft Office, training, teaching, leadership, teamwork, interdisciplinary thinker, writing/presentation on technical subjects to diverse audiences
- **Language:** English - native, French - intermediate/advanced proficiency

### EDUCATION

- **Ph.D. Geography; Rutgers University (2009-2015)**  
Dissertation: Assessing the Viability of Index Insurance as an Adaptation Tool in a Changing Climate Context: Case Study in the West African Sahel
- **M.A. Climate and Society; Columbia University (2005-2006)**
- Graduate study, **Physical Oceanography; MIT-Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) (2002-2004)**
- **B.A. Geosciences; Princeton University (1998-2002)**  
Cum Laude, Sigma Xi, Edward Sampson 1914 Prize in Environmental Geosciences Research

### PURPOSE

**To contribute to societal climate resilience**

**Adaption and solution oriented applied Climate Scientist with over 15 years of experience working on:**

- Climate data analysis; regression, correlation, downscaling and index analysis with global climate model, remote sensing, observational, agricultural and socioeconomic data
- Applications in agriculture/food security, health, energy, insurance and humanitarian disaster response
- Interdisciplinary, international team projects with complex, rapidly evolving objectives
- Projects spanning Africa, US, Europe, South Pacific and the Caribbean

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### CLIMATE ANALYTICS

**Senior Scientist on Loss and Damage**

**Nov 2024-present  
New York, NY**

- Team Lead for developing a cross-sectoral national loss and damage strategy for Saint Kitts and Nevis ([NDCPAF](#))
- Scientist on loss and damage project in the South Pacific ([IKI BOLD](#))
- Contributor to [NGFS](#) and [SPARCCLE](#) projects
- Contributor to proposals on climate justice, public health and scientific data quality control

#### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CLIMATE SCHOOL

**Teaching Assistant** - Climate Dynamics (graduate)

**Sep 2024-Dec 2024  
New York, NY**

#### CLIMATEBASE

**Fellow** - part of selective professional fellowship for climate professionals

**Sep 2023-Dec 2023**

#### INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE AND SOCIETY (IRI)

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

**Senior Staff Associate**

**Postdoctoral Research Scientist**

**Palisades, NY**

**Jul 2019 - Dec 2022**

**Jun 2016 - Jun 2019**

- Work on WFP sponsored [Niger Forecast-based Financing project](#) triggered a 9.5 million USD [payout](#) through UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in response to a severe drought, 2022
- Lead author paper in [International Journal of Climatology](#) was the first study of Rwanda's climatology using high resolution satellite-station data including the post genocide period
- Forecast seasonal climate variability using statistical methods (canonical correlation analysis (CCA), principal component and extended logistic regression (PCR, ELR), skill assessment)
- Led or co-led 20 trainings (in-person and remote) on forecasting and analysis using IRI tools (with national and regional meteorological and climate services partners in Africa and Asia)
- Developed climate science and statistics curricula in climate risk management for agricultural extension in Ethiopia
- Coauthored papers in *Malaria Journal*, *Climate Dynamics*, *Atmospheric and Climate Sciences*, *Atmospheric Research*

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### CLIMATE ANALYTICS

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#### **PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE (PEI), PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**

**Princeton, NJ**

##### ***Postdoctoral Research Associate***

**Feb 2015 - May 2016**

- Interdisciplinary research with economists, engineers and public health experts on the interplay between climate mitigation, economic impact, population and public health using integrated assessment models (IAMs)
- Coauthored papers in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Climatic Change* and *World Bank Economic Review*

#### **RUTGERS UNIVERSITY**

**New Brunswick, NJ**

##### ***Teaching Assistant / Graduate Student***

**Sep 2009 - Jan 2015**

- John Mather Paper of the Year Award for paper in [Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology](#), (Climate Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers (AAG))
- Lead author papers in *Climatic Change*, *Weather*, *Climate and Society*, *GeoCompass*, and *African Geographical Review*
- Developed statistical climate scenario analysis methods focusing on extreme seasons (Monte Carlo methods, extreme tail estimation methods, auto-regressive processes)
- Dissertation Teaching Award, (Rutgers University Graduate School) - developed and taught upper-level undergraduate course on climate and society
- 4+ years of undergraduate and graduate teaching and TA experience

#### **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE AND SOCIETY (IRI) COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

**Palisades, NY**

##### ***Staff Associate***

**Sep 2006 - Dec 2008**

- Developed drought index insurance contracts for a dozen locations across Africa (Millennium Villages Project) in project supported by Swiss ReInsurance

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Author or coauthor of 15 peer-reviewed articles, 20 reports/training curricula, over 50 conference presentations, 30 invited talks and over 20 trainings/stakeholder engagements (publications available through links), see details on full CV
  - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/asher-siebert-7016065/>
  - [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Asher\\_Siebert2](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Asher_Siebert2)
  - <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7111-8722>

## **PERSONAL**

Husband and father, musician: trumpet, piano, composition; klezmer, classical, jazz