

Researcher

Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy

March 2024 – Present

- **Project Management and Impact Evaluation:** Led 5 EU and Horizon 2020-funded sustainability projects, overseeing impact evaluations from design to execution. Delivered projects on time, adhering to quality standards, and provided key insights that influenced climate change mitigation strategies and circular economy initiatives across 3 countries.

Sustainability Consultant

Pyxera Global (USAID Funded Project: Innovations for Reducing Plastics for a Cleaner Environment in India (inREPLACE)), New Delhi, India

Feb 2024 – July 2024

- **Climate Finance and Impact Evaluation:** Evaluated the effectiveness of climate finance mechanisms, focusing on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, and their application in emerging markets like plastic credits. Contributed to the design and establishment of a \$10M blended finance facility in India, supporting the evaluation of its impact on market innovation and investment trends.

Youth Strategic Advisor to the CEO (Patrick Verkooijen)

Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), Rotterdam, Netherlands

Nov 2022- Dec 2023

- **Climate Initiative Design and Evaluation:** Led the design of the Youth Adaptation Day Call for Solutions, engaging over 50 youth groups and partners. Developed proposal guidelines that attracted 100+ submissions. Managed the evaluation process, coordinating 10 expert reviewers, and delivered an evaluation report that informed the selection of the top 5 solutions, which were implemented in climate adaptation projects.
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Research Intern

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Bonn, Germany

Sep 2021-Mar 2022

- **Climate Change Analyses:** Conducted adaptation, mitigation, and transparency analyses of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), long-term strategies (LTS), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and climate finance projects such as GEF and GCF including Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF). Presented relevant findings at COP26 in Glasgow. Co-authored the annual [RCC performance report for 2022](#), analyzing over 2,500 regional RCC activities across 6 different UNFCCC offices.
- **Timely Reporting and Narrative Development:** Coordinated with international partners of UNFCCC (6 regional offices; RCC Lomé, RCC Kampala, RCC Bangkok, RCC Panama, RCC St. George's, RCC Dubai) to ensure the timely submission of reports, consolidating these inputs into cohesive narrative reports that highlighted project achievements and lessons learned.

Fundraising Assistant (Part time)

United Nations Volunteers, UNV, Mt Elgon, Kenya

Jan 2021- July 2021

- **Fundraising & Communication:** Designed 2 grant proposal documents and fundraising social media campaigns. Raised \$15,000 through strategic fundraising campaigns for local initiatives.

Sustainability Consultant (Part time)

Neutreeno, Cambridge, United Kingdom

May 2020-May 2021

- **Strategic Briefing and Impact Recommendations:** Prepared 5 strategic briefs on collaboration opportunities in carbon markets and climate mitigation. Delivered recommendations that led to the scale-up of 3 high-impact initiatives, contributing to 10% improvement in alignment with global climate goals and supporting enhanced replicability across projects.

Research Intern with the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU)

Green Climate Fund (GCF), Incheon, South Korea

Sep 2018- Sep 2019

- **Creative Problem Solving and Impact Evaluation (LORTA Program):** Participated in the LORTA (Learning-Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment) program, conducting independent research on 64 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to identify gaps in climate finance and policy frameworks. Proposed and implemented 5 key improvements that enhanced the evaluation process for climate finance projects, improving the effectiveness of impact evaluations and ensuring alignment with GCF's sustainability objectives.
- **Adaptability and Impact Evaluation:** Organized 3 high-level GCF Board meetings, adapting to shifting priorities and facilitating discussions that led to decisions influencing future LORTA impact evaluations. Ensured that evaluation criteria aligned with operational goals and stakeholder needs, contributing to more accurate and real-

time assessment of project impacts.

SUSTAINABILITY FELLOWSHIPS

Youth World Bank Fellow (Max Thabiso Edkins Climate Ambassador)

World Bank Group

Jan 2022- Dec 2022

- **Climate Finance Research:** Conducted adaptation, mitigation, and transparency analyses of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), long-term strategies (LTS), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and climate finance projects such as GEF and GCF, including energy transition frameworks.
- **Communication Strategies:** Developed communication strategies to reach out to 15 international partner organizations wanting to implement Circular Economy principles in their operational activities.

IMF Youth Fellow 2021

International Monetary Fund

Oct 2021-Oct 2022

- **Behavioral Insights:** Advised IMF to include behavioural change experiments during project implementation, especially on climate change, energy transition and circular economy principles.
- **Framework Review:** Reviewed Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) framework to map green recovery, Net-Zero investment initiatives of the IMF.

EDUCATION

PhD Researcher

Sant 'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa, Italy

Oct 2019-Nov 2023

Research focused on climate change and sustainability. Led research efforts involving the design of robust survey methodologies and data analysis for projects centered on sustainability and climate change mitigation. Developed insights to support climate action strategies and just transition frameworks in the Global South (Ghana)

Visiting Researcher

Environment Change Institute (ECI), School of Geography and Environment (SoGE),
University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

Jun 2022- Dec 2022

Master's Program

Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea

Aug 2016-Aug 2018

Master's in international Trade, Finance and Management (ITFM), minor in Sustainable Development (SD)

Bachelor Program

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Aug 2013-July 2016

Bachelor of Arts in Korean Studies. Studied the Korean language, literature, culture, politics, geography, and economics of Korea.

PUBLICATIONS

1. **The Relevance of the Circular Economy for Climate Change: An Exploration through the Theory of Change Approach** (Authors- Manav Khanna, Natalia Marzia Gusmerotti and Marco Frey) ([Link](#))
2. **An Assessment on the Carbon Footprint of a Football Club—an Action Research from Theory to Practice** (Authors- Manav Khanna, Tiberio Daddi, Federico Merlo and Fabio Iraldo)- ([Link](#))
3. **Boosting Sustainable Tourism Development and Capacity of Tourism SMEs through Transnational Cooperation and Knowledge Transfer** (Authors-Tiberio Daddi, Nicola Bellini, Owais Ur Rehman Khan and Manav Khanna)- Published by the European Union ([Link](#))
4. **Thinking Beyond Recycling** (Authors- Ashish Pahwa, Babu R, Padhmapriya Nagarajan, Pinaki Dasgupta, Manav Khanna)- Published by the Circular for Zero ([Link](#))
5. **Factsheet for young people, Locally Led Adaptation in Africa** (Authors- Manav Khanna and Sadia Jahan Rothi)- Published by the Global Center for Adaptation ([Link](#))
6. **RCCs IN 2022: ACCELERATING IMPLEMENTATION:** (Authors: UNFCCC team) Published by UNFCCC ([Link](#))
7. **Forward-Looking Performance Review of the Green Climate Fund (FPR): (Authors: IEU Team)** Published by IEU, GCF ([Link](#))