

SARAH PICCINI



Sarah's interest in International Development and Food Security began while working with CRACYP, a sugarcane farmers' cooperative in Ecuador. Working closely with small farmers, Sarah supported the village to organic certification for distilled sugarcane alcohol, a product that can be added to perfumes and lotions. As part of the project, Sarah also created a revolving credit fund to finance the purchase of vital equipment. As a result the farmers' cooperative began supplying fair-trade, organic alcohol to the Body Shop International, raising the income the village received by more than three times what it had been previously.

In addition to her experience operating at the grassroots level, Sarah also worked for more than three years in the Emerging Markets Group Deloitte Consulting's Federal Practice. There Sarah assisted in the implementation of several Public Financial Management projects in Latin America and the Middle East, including field research on imports/exports to the West Bank and the implementation of subnational fiscal transfers in Colombia.

In 2014, Sarah transitioned out of Deloitte in order to work with social enterprises in Vietnam focused on food security and sustainable development. She worked with a small local NGO in Ho Chi Minh City, The Green Youth Collective, which conducted workshops to teach local youth the value of urban gardening and community food security. She designed and delivered a series of presentations on food security to local universities, and joined a local start up dedicated to making greener office space by installing indoor gardens into local business establishments.

At SAIS, Sarah studies International development with a focus on agriculture and the world food economy. During the 2015-2016 academic year, Sarah served as a Kirchner Food Fellow. As one of three fellows responsible for managing an impact investment fund dedicated to food security solutions. During the fellowship, Sarah met and supported dozens of entrepreneurs from North and Latin America, selected 2016 Investments, and participated in the Global Food for Thought Conference and the American Farm Bureau Entrepreneurship Challenge.

Going into the 2016-17 Academic year, Sarah is working to connect smallholder farmers to global supply chains through the power and ubiquity of mobile technology.

Sarah Piccini holds bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and International Studies from North Carolina State University, where she graduated with honors from the Alexander Hamilton Scholars Program in 2011.