

Pia Piroschka Otte - Curriculum Vitae

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Date of birth: 19.05.1984

Fieldwork experience

Bhutan, Nepal, Greenland, India, Burkina Faso, South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania, Namibia, Botswana, New Zealand, Norway, Brazil, Germany, Australia

Research interests

Social science research on alternative finance in agriculture, sustainable business models, agricultural technology development in the Global South, climate change and circular economy. Extensive expertise in transdisciplinary research, participatory methods and qualitative comparative analysis (QCA).

Professional experience

05.2024-now	Research Professor at Ruralis – Institute for Rural and Regional Research
09.2015-05.2024	Senior Researcher at Ruralis
04.2024-06.2024	Visiting scholar University of Greenland
04.2021-06.2023	Research Manager at Ruralis
09.2018-now	Research Affiliate, Centre for Sustainability , University of Otago, New Zealand
07.2018-05.2020	Researcher/coordinator at NTNU Sustainability , Cluster C - Climate change mitigation and adaptation (33%)
10.2018-12.2018	Visiting scholar University of Western Australia, School of Agriculture and Environment; University of Otago, Centre for Sustainability
10.2014-08.2015	Postdoc Research Fellow and coordinator at TU Darmstadt , URBANgrad Graduate School "Urban Infrastructures in Transition: The Case of African Cities"

Education

01.2010-06.2014	PhD in Political Science – Department of Sociology and Political Science – NTNU, Trondheim
08.2007-06.2009	MPhil in Development Studies – Department of Geography – NTNU, Trondheim
10.2003-07.2007	Magister in Sociology (courses & exams taken until 2007 were approved as Bachelor in Sociology) Justus-Liebig University Giessen, Germany

Work history- Recent research projects (with either project or WP leader role and where I took part or led the proposal writing work)

2024-now	SolarFood: Developing inclusive business model (BM) concepts for solar food drying in the Himalaya region (Project leader , funded by the Research Council of Norway)
2023-now	KARBONMAT: Designing sustainable business model (SBM) concepts for carbon sequestration in soils to transform the Norwegian food system (Project leader , funded by the Research Council of Norway)
2024-now	LocalArctic: Contextualizing sustainable tourism through a local Arctic project funding program for sustainable event planning in Greenland (Project leader , funded by Ruralis)
2023-now	ClimateCropping: Climate Smart Management for Resilient European Cropping Systems (WP leader , funded by EJP Soil)
2023-now	ECOFOOD Creating inclusive and sustainable food systems in refugee hosting contexts in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA): Mentoring the project leader and working in WP2.

2021-2023	COOLCROWD 2.0 Testing of a local crowdfunding concept for financing climate mitigation measures in Norwegian agriculture (Project leader , funded by the Research Council of Norway)
2021-2022	PES Horizon Europe Framework grant for 2021 and 2022 (Project leader)
2021-now	Solar Food: Reducing post-harvest losses through improved solar drying (WP leader , funded by the Swedish Research Council)
2021-now	Civic Renewables: Collaborative approaches to civic renewable energy for sustainable rural development and land use (WP leader , funded by the Research Council of Norway)
2019-2021	Sustainable Food Systems for poverty and hunger alleviation in Low Income Countries (WP leader , internally funded Ruralis)
2017-2021	COOLCROWD - Local crowdfunding for a low-emission society: Investigating the concept of local climate crowdfunding for Norway (Project leader , funded by the Research Council of Norway)
2017-2019	Solar Food in Mozambique - a documentary about research in a developing country (Solmat i Moçambique – en dokumentärfilm om forskning i ett utvecklingsland) (involved in story line writing and film making) (funded by The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning, FORMAS)
2015-2019	SOLTØRK - Combined solar and membrane drying technologies for sustainable fruit preservation in developing countries (WP leader , funded by The Swedish Research Council FORMAS)
2015-2018	Capture + Sustainable biochar systems for a zero emission society (WP leader) (funded by the Research Council of Norway)
2010-2014	Cooking with the sun - a comparative country analysis of Solar Cooking, its adoption and impact on people's lives (PhD project) (funded by the Research Council of Norway)

Publications (most recent)

International peer-reviewed journals & book chapters:

My citation count based on Scopus is 346 (h-index = 11; October 2025).

- 2025. **Otte, P.P.**, Adamsone-Fiskovica A., Žabko O., Kerge K., Šūmane S., Shvaichenko S., Veveris A., Mincyte D. A Qualitative Comparative Analysis of cross-sectoral bioresource residue flows from agriculture, forestry, and aquaculture: the crucial role of non-biobased sectors in the development of the circular bioeconomy, *Frontiers in Sustainability*, 6, 1-17.
- 2025 Mincyte, D., Bartkienė, A., Bikauskaitė, R., Šakelaitė, I., **Otte, P.P.** What does it mean to care in industrial agriculture?. *Agric Hum Values* 42, 1347–1359.
- 2024. **Otte, P.P.**, Mæhle Natalia. Crowdfunding of Climate Mitigation Measures in Agriculture: Developing a Sustainable Business Model Concept. *Journal of Business Models*, 12:2, 57-78.
- 2023 Farstad, M., **Otte, Pia P.** Palmer, E. Socio-cultural conditions for social acceptance of bioeconomy transitions: the case of Norway. *Environment, Development and Sustainability*.
- 2022 Burton, R., **Otte, Pia P.** Promoting climate change mitigation in agriculture: do we need to account for farm family life-cycle?, *Journal of Rural Studies*, 96, 270-281.
- 2022 **Otte, Pia P.**, Mæhle N. The combined effect of success factors in crowdfunding research, *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 366, 13291.
- 2021 **Otte, Pia P.** What makes people act climate-friendly? A decision-making path model for designing effective climate change policies, *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, 52, 132-139.
- 2021 Bernardo, Ricardo; Davidsson, Henrik; Samuelsson, Peter; Bengtsson, Gustaf; Döhlen, Viktor; Olsson, Joakim; Phinney, Randi; **Otte, Pia, P.**; Tivana, Lucas Daniel; Andersson, Martin; Rayner, Marilyn. Combined solar and membrane drying technologies for sustainable fruit preservation in low-income countries – prototype development, modelling, and testing. *Solar Energy Advances* 2021 ;1.

- 2021 Farstad Maja, **Otte, Pia, P.** A full package of gains? Lay perspectives on a bioeconomic transition. *International Journal of Sustainable Society*, 13(2), 73-89.
- 2021 Kragt, M.E, Burton, R., Zahl-Thanem, A., **Otte, Pia, P.** Farmers' interest in crowdfunding to finance climate change mitigation practices, *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 321, 128967.
- 2021 Mæhle, Natalia, **Otte, Pia, P.**, Huijben, B., De Vries, J. Crowdfunding for climate change: Exploring the use of climate frames by environmental entrepreneurs, *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 314, 128040
- 2020 Mæhle, Natalia, **Otte, Pia, P.**, Drozdova, N. "Crowdfunding Sustainability." Shneor, R., Zhao, L., and Flåten, B-T. (eds). *Advances in Crowdfunding Research and Practice*. Palgrave MacMillan, p.393-422.
- 2020 Farstad Maja, **Otte, Pia P.**, Thorseth May-Britt. "Bioøkonomien i møte med samfunnet», in *Etter oljen: vår bioøkonomiske fremtid*, Rob Burton, Magnar Forbord, Eirik Magnus Fuglestad and May-Britt Ellingsen (eds.), Cappelen Damm Akademisk, p. 71-86.
- 2018 **Otte, Pia, P.**, Bernardo, R., Phinney, R., Davidsson, H., Tivana, L.D. "Facilitating integrated agricultural technology development through participatory research", *The Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension*, 24(3), 285-299.
- 2018 **Otte, Pia, P.**, Tivana, L.D., Phinney, R., Bernardo, R., Davidsson, H. "The importance of gender roles and relations in rural agricultural technology development: a case study on solar fruit drying in Mozambique", *Gender Technology and Development*, 22(1), 40-58.
- 2018 Eiter, S., Fjellstad, W., **Otte, Pia, P.**, Rønningen, K., «Norway», in: *Renewable Energy and Landscape Quality*, (eds.) Roth et al., JOVIS, Berlin.
- 2018 **Otte, Pia, P.**, Rønningen, K., Moe, E. «Contested wind energy: Discourses on energy impacts and their significance for energy justice in Fosen» in: *Energy impacts and contested futures*, (ed.) A. Szolucha, Routledge.
- 2018 **Otte, Pia, P.** „Zwischen Überfluss und Mangel: Einblicke in die Reparatur städtischer Infrastrukturen am Beispiel der Wasserversorgung in Dar es Salaam“, in: *Kulturen des Reparierens Dinge – Wissen – Praktiken*, (eds.) S. Krebs, G. Schabacher, H. Weber. transcript, Bielefeld.
- 2017 **Otte, Pia, P.** Vik, J. Biochar systems: Developing a socio-technical system framework for biochar production in Norway, *Technology in Society*, 51, 34–45.
- 2016 **Otte, Pia, P.** Integrating Sustainable Development in Higher Education through Experience-based Learning: Insights from Experts in Team (EiT) for Developing a Combined Theoretical Framework, *Journal of Education for Sustainable Development* 10(1), 1–29.
- 2014 **Otte, Pia, P.** Solar cooking in Mozambique - An investigation of end-user's needs for the design of solar cookers, *Energy Policy*, 74, 366-375.

Books

- 2014 **Otte, Pia, P.** Sunrise or sunset? - A comparative study on the successful adoption of institutional solar cookers in the developing world, LAMBERT Academic Publishing, Saarbrücken.
- 2009 **Otte, Pia, P.** Cooking with the sun - An analysis of Solar Cooking in Tanzania, its adoption and impact on development. VDM Verlag, Saarbrücken.

Reports:

- 2023 **Otte, Pia P.** (red.), Natalia Mæhle, and Rita M. Sivertsvik (2023). *Evaluering av en pilotstudie for lokal folkefinansiering av klimatiltak i norsk landbruk*. Report (R-5/23), Ruralis - Institutt for rural- og regionalforskning, Trondheim.
- 2022 **Otte P.P.** (red.), Baral, B., Acharya, A., Yangdon, K., Lhendup, T., Andersson, M., Andersson, E., Davidsson, H., A need assessment for designing sustainable solar drying technology in Nepal and Bhutan. Ruralis report (R-8/22), Trondheim.
- 2021 **Otte Pia, P.** (red.), Mæhle, N., Hansen, S., Farstad, M., Soldal, O., Espen Stoknes, P., Banet, C., (2021). Sluttrapport Coolcrowd – en veiledning for lokal folkefinansiering av klimatiltak i landbruket, Ruralis report (R-2/21) Trondheim.

- 2019 **Otte, Pia, P.**, Zahl-Thanem, A., Hansen, S., Mæhle, N. Norwegian farmers' willingness to participate in a local climate crowdfunding program – results from a national survey. Ruralis report (R-5/19), Trondheim.
- 2017 Sovacool, B., Appavou, F., **Otte, Pia, P.** «Distributed Renewable Energy for Energy Access» (chapter 3), in REN21. Renewables 2017 Global Status Report (Paris: REN21 Secretariat). ISBN 978-3-9818107-6-9 http://www.ren21.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/17-8399_GSR_2017_Full_Report_0621_Opt.pdf

Popular science publications:

- 2020 **Otte Pia, P.** »Biokull som klimatiltak gjennom lokal folkefinansiering» NTNU Kveld: Siste utvei – nye og drastiske klimaløsninger? NTNU Kveld, Dokkhuset, 22.01.2020.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTledxu2FK4>
- 2020 **Otte Pia, P.** »Klimatiltak i landbruket og lokal folkefinansiering» NRK Frokostradio, 22.02.2020
<https://radio.nrk.no/serie/frokostradio/DMTL10001520/22-01-2020>
- 2018 **Otte Pia, P.** Lokal folkefinansiering av klimatiltak. Pengevirke Cultura Bank, Nr. 2018/4.
<https://www.cultura.no/arkiv/pengevirke/lokal-folkefinansiering>
- 2018 **Otte, Pia P.** 235 SunPod-Interview: Dr. Pia Otte – Developing solar energy technologies for and with people, <http://www.sunpod.de/tag/pia-otte/> (uploaded 24.06.2018)
- 2018 **Otte Pia, P.** – «Bønder som pionerer i klimakampen». Kronikk Nationen, 04.01.2018.
- 2017 Ståhl, L.H., **Otte, Pia, P.** Bernardo R. "The village of the yellow tire" (documentary of solar drying in Mozambique).
- 2016 **Otte, Pia, P.** Brobakk, J. Biokull – landbrukets «klimagull»? Kronikk Nationen, 08.10.2016.
- 2014 **Otte, Pia, P.** Teknologi for de fattige?, Aftenposten Viten, 23.04.2014,
<http://www.aftenposten.no/viten/Teknologi-for-de-fattige-7540003.html#.U1fJdvmSxBI>
- 2013 **Otte, Pia, P.** TEDx talk Trondheim salon event "Re-thinking Green: What I learned from cooking with the sun" (23.04.2013) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddjRS08LSh4>

Supervision of students:

2025-now: Co-supervisor of a PhD student at Kathmandu University.

2018-2023: Co-supervisor of 3 master students from TU/e Netherlands, 1 master student at ISS/NTNU.

Other relevant professional experiences:

2022	2 day course in practical management by Bedre Beslutninger AS (Lederkurs – Grunnkurs i praktisk ledelse)
2021-2022	Part of the Primus course team. Primus is a joined training program for project and research managers from Ruralis, Nofima, NIBIO and the Norwegian Veterinary Institute
2021	Certified Equine Assisted Learning Facilitator at Equine Connection Canada in collaboration with Leading Edge Professional Development, Australia
2020	Peer reviewer for Danida Fellowship Centre, Denmark
2019-now	Stable manager at Stall Brålykkja https://www.stallbraalykkja.no/
2019-2020	
2025- now	Employee representative, steering group Ruralis, Norway
2015-now	Reviewer for the International Conference on Alternative Finance Research, Energy Research & Social Science; Energy Policy; Gender, Technology and Development; Baltic Journal of Management, Journal of Human Development and Capabilities