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WORLD BANK GROUP AFRICA FELLOWS

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST, AFRICA REGION

PROFILES OF THE COHORT



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Launched in 2013, the World Bank Group (WBG) Africa Fellowship Program offers a six-month WBG assignment to young and emerging African scholars who are completing or have recently completed their PhDs in an area relevant to the World Bank's work. While gaining hands-on experience in the operations of the organization, the Fellows benefit from and contribute to research and innovation in multiple sectors. The Fellowship program has been very successful since its inception, building a strong pipeline of young African talent interested in a career in development in international institutions, African governments, think tanks, and academia. The program is managed by the Chief Economist Office of the Africa Region.



3200
Candidates



97
Shortlisted



36
Fellows Selected



11
are funded directly by
various units of WBG

25
funded through
the program



11 **30.55%**
Females of the cohort



WHERE THEY ARE WORKING

Matching of Fellows within units is undertaken by representatives from the GPs and global themes.

Countries of origin: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Rep. Dem., Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia.

Across various WBG institutions, CMUs, GPs and themes including: UNHCR; IFC; Urban; Disaster Risk Management; Resilience and Land; Development Research Group; Energy & Extractives; Agriculture & Food; Gender; Equitable Growth; Finance & Institution; Health Nutrition & Population; Finance; Competitiveness and Innovation; Social Sustainability and Inclusion; Governance; Education; Office of the Chief Economist; Africa; Social Protection and Labor



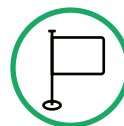
WHAT THEY ARE DOING

Gaining experience in:

- knowledge generation and dissemination,
- design of global and country policies,
- and the building of institutions to achieve inclusive growth in developing countries.

While benefitting from, and contributing to:

- research,
- economic policy,
- technical assistance
- lending operations



WHERE THEY ARE GOING

After leaving the program former Fellows work in various positions at WBG:

- Consultants
- Young Professionals
- Economists

Others have been hired by:

- IMF
- Think tanks
- African Universities



MESHACK ACHORE

Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement (UNHCR)



GHANA

Meshack Achore is a public health specialist interested in improving health and living standards worldwide, particularly among marginalized populations. His research interests examine how households, particularly displaced households, in sub-Saharan Africa cope with water insecurity and the health implications of these coping strategies. His other interest includes social determinants of health, inequalities, inequities, displacement, and infectious diseases.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement in Copenhagen under the FCV Operational Support providing analytical support in Project 21, a multi-country protection monitoring data collection, analysis and dissemination platform launched in 2020 in Burkina Faso, which is contributing to the collection and analysis of relevant socio-economic data on forcibly displaced persons and host communities.

Meshack holds a Ph.D. in Kinesiology and Health Studies (Health Promotion stream) from Queens University in Canada, a Master of Public Health from McGill University in Canada, and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Ghana.



ELIZABETH AHIKIRIZA

Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement (UNHCR)



UGANDA

Elizabeth Ahikiriza is an Agricultural Economist with research interests in food security, climate change, behavioral studies, price analysis and productivity analysis. She is a researcher at Ghent University (Belgium) pursuing a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics. Elizabeth is currently an Assistant Lecturer and researcher at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. In the past, she has worked with different research institutes and government projects in Uganda.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow she is providing method-

ological and analytical support on several projects regarding forced displaced populations.

She also holds a Master of Science in Nutrition and Rural Development (Major: Rural Economics and Management) from Ghent University.



VIGNAWOU LUCIEN AHOUEANGBE

Economic Research Unit (IFC)



TOGO

Vignawou Lucien Ahouangbe is an economist whose research focuses on microeconomics and international development with a particular interest in climate change, the developing world, the environment, business, and energy.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Economic Research Unit, contributing to the Economics & Private Sector Development Program's understanding of the Digital sector both globally and in Africa, particularly access costs, challenges, and benefits in the private sector.

Previously, he was a consultant at IFPRI evaluating the Africa RISING program, supported by USAID under the U.S. Government's Feed the Future initiative.

He is currently a third-year doctoral candidate at the ISC Paris business school and the University of Orléans. His thesis focuses on natural disasters and firm dynamics. He holds a Dual master's (Magistère) degree in development economics and project development from CERDI of the Clermont Auvergne University, and a master's degree in international economics from the Universities of Tours and Orléans.



ABLAM ESTEL APETI

Development Impact Measurement FIG (IFC)



TOGO

Ablam Estel Apeti is an economist with research interests including macroeconomics, fiscal and monetary policy, climate change, natural resources, digitalization, political economy, energy, international

economics, and microeconomics. He completed his PhD at the Laboratoire d'Economie d'Orléans-Université Clermont Auvergne (LEO-UCA) in France.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Estel works in CDIFI on assessing the financing gap of SMEs in developing countries, estimating Non-Performing Loans (NPLs), and on entrepreneurial issues.



FATOUMATA NANKOTO CISSÉ

Development Impact Measurement unit
for Infrastructure and Natural Resources
(IFC)



SENEGAL

Fatou is an economist with research interests in impact evaluation, energy, impact investment industry, private sector in emerging markets, and poverty measurement. Fatou is completing her Ph.D. in Development Economics focusing on impact measurements and development projects implemented by the private sector at the University Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne. She is also working as a Ph.D. candidate/employee in the private equity fund Investisseurs et Partenaires (I&P) in Paris.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working with the Development Impact Measurement unit for Infrastructure and Natural Resources (CDIIN) at IFC, where she is contributing to the diagnostic of the IFC's AIMM framework and the monitoring of mini-grids projects in Africa.

Prior to her Ph.D. studies, Fatou worked as a research assistant for the Foundation for studies and Research on International Development (FERDI) in Paris.



ELHADJI A. O. DIALLO

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land



SENEGAL

Elhadji is a qualified artificial intelligence (AI) specialist with a Ph.D. in Deep Reinforcement Learning from Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan. He has extensive experience as a postdoctoral researcher at Univer-

sité du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) and a research engineer at Sony Computer Science Laboratories. Elhadji's research interests lie in the mechanisms of trust and safety in AI, as well as the impact of AI on public policy.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is leading the development of the Smart City Lab for the urban system in Burundi. In this role, Elhadji is responsible for designing and conducting workshops, as well as developing the necessary documentation to successfully launch the project. With his expertise and commitment, Elhadji hopes to make a significant impact in the field of AI and urban development.



HAMIDOU DIALLO

Education



SENEGAL

Hamidou Diallo is an economist with research interests in development economics, population dynamics, education, and climate change. Hamidou holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Université Paris-Dauphine in France. His Ph.D. thesis investigated the interactions between population dynamics, infrastructures, and internal migrations in Sub-Saharan Africa.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Education Global Practice in West Africa. He provides analytical work on the targeting design and economic analysis to support two projects on vocational training in Senegal, and school construction and girls' education in Niger.

Before his PhD, Hamidou graduated with a master's degree in development economics at Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne – IEDES. He worked as a research assistant at the DIAL research team in Paris, and as a field assistant and research intern in impact evaluation at the Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) in Paris and Innovations for Poverty Actions in Bamako.



YANNICK FOSSO DJOUMESSI

Economic Policy Research (IFC)



CAMEROON

Yannick Fosso Djoumessi is an economist with research interests in innovation and technology, productivity, value chains including the global level, sustainable agriculture, food and nutrition, and rural economy.

Yannick graduated with a Ph.D. in Economic Development from the University of Dschang (Cameroon).

As a WBG-Africa fellow, Yannick is involved in the Country Private Sector Diagnostic (CPSD) for Burundi and the Africa's Digital Transformation project within CER department at IFC.

Prior to joining the WBG, Yannick was a Research Fellow at the DSI/NRF/Newton Fund Trilateral Research Chair in Transformative Innovation at the University of Johannesburg. He worked for the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) as a consultant. From 2019 to 2021, Yannick was awarded a Research Grant offered by the African Economic Research Consortium to conduct a research study in Africa.



MACOURA DOUMBIA

Development Research Group, Human Development



BURKINA FASO

Macoura DOUMBIA is an economist interested in issues related to environmental health, air pollution, education, social protection, and climate change. She is the final year of her Ph.D. studies at the

Laboratoire d'Économie d'Orléans (LEO), Université Clermont Auvergne in France.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working with the DECRG-Human Development unit, providing analytical and research support for an impact evaluation of a natural disaster on a girls' education project in Mozambique.

Macoura holds a master's degree (Magistère) in development economics from Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Développement International (CERDI), School of Economics, Université Clermont-Auvergne, France.



OLUDELE FOLARIN

Syndicated Loans & Mobilization (IFC)



NIGERIA

Oludele Folarin is an economist with research interests in financial sector development and development finance, innovation and job creation, resource mobilization and public finance management, and human capital development.

He is finalizing a Ph.D. in Economics at the Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. His Ph.D. thesis is aimed at deepening our understanding of factors that contribute to high non-performing loans in the Nigerian banking industry.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he provides research support to the IFC Syndication and Mobilization unit targeted towards raising debt capital for IFC private sector clients in developing countries, especially in African countries.

Previously, Oludele worked as a research associate at the Centre for the Study of the Economies of Africa (CSEA), a think tank based in Abuja Nigeria. Oludele holds a master's degree in economics from the University of Ibadan.



TOSIN GBADEGESIN

Corporate Portfolio Management, (IFC)



NIGERIA

Tosin Gbadegesin is an international development practitioner with a special interest in economic development and environmental sustainability. He is a Ph.D. candidate in international development at the University of Southern Mississippi, USA.

He has proven experience in data analysis with a focus on regression modeling, financial modeling, and machine learning.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Tosin is working with the Corporate Portfolio Management division of IFC in Washington DC. He applies Machine Learning and AI to IFC historical debt data to determine the likelihood of debt prepayment, debt cancellation and identify high-risk clients.

Prior to this fellowship, Tosin has worked as an energy efficiency analyst at DC Sustainable Ener-

gy Utility, as a Blum Global Fellow in Development Finance at the Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research in Israel, and as a data analyst at Edelman Global Advisory and the International Institute for Local Development.

Tosin holds a master's degree in sustainable development from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.



MATTHEW GOUGH

Energy and Extractives



SOUTH AFRICA

Matthew Gough is an energy systems engineer whose primary interest is using renewable energy technologies to catalyze a just transition in developing countries. He has submitted his Ph.D. thesis in sustainable energy systems to the University of Porto, Portugal, through the MIT Portugal Program.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Matthew is working on a project to increase the usage of renewable energy technologies and improve the performance of the electrical utility in Cabo Verde with the Infra Energy 2 unit within the Energy and Extractives Global Practice.

Matthew has a BEng in Civil Engineering from the University of Pretoria, an MSc in Sustainable Energy Engineering from the University of Cape Town, and a post-graduate diploma in economics from the London School of Economics. During his Ph.D. studies, Matthew worked at the Institute for Systems and Computer Engineering, Technology, and Science on various projects concerning demand response, electric mobility, and energy communities.



THARCISSE GUEDEGBE

Agriculture and Food



BENIN

Tharcisse Guedegbe is an agricultural economist with an interest in development economics. His research interests include productivity analysis, the role of agriculture in trade integration, fertilizer policies, the socio-economic impacts of conflict and pandemics, and the identification of

associated resilience factors.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he works with the Agriculture and Food Global Practice for West and Central Africa, providing support to the preparation of operations in Ghana and Niger. He is also contributing to the Agricultural Public Expenditure Review for Ghana, and to the Ghana Special Economic Update on Food and Nutrition Security.

Tharcisse holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics from Michigan State and a Bachelor of Engineering in Agronomy with a specialization in agricultural economics from the Hassan II Agronomic and Veterinary Institute in Rabat, Morocco.



HERMANN NDOYA

Gender



CAMEROON

Hermann Ndoya Hegueu is an economist with research interests in development economics, including financial inclusion, gender equality and empowerment, governance, innovations, human capital, and informal economy. His current research focuses on understanding the gender gap in financial well-being. Hermann holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Dschang in Cameroon.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Gender Global Practice team to develop a conceptual framework that will help researchers and policy makers to accelerate gender equality and empowerment for all. Hermann is also involved in providing analytical and research support on a data story on gender financial inclusion.

Hermann holds a master's degree in applied economics from the University of Yaoundé II-Soa (Cameroon).

You may find more information here: [Hermann NDOYA, Ph.D. | LinkedIn](#)



KABINET KABA

Equitable Growth, Finance & Institution



GUINEA

Kabinet Kaba is a Ph.D. student at CERDI, France, working on the determinants of manufacturing firms' performance in Sub-Saharan African countries. He is conducting research on production losses experienced by domestic and foreign firms in Africa, as well as employment losses related to infrastructures, financing, and security obstacles. He is also a member of the EFI's organizing committee for the upcoming Annual Sahel Economic Forum and is providing inputs to the Central Sahel Quarterly Monitor.

In 2022, Kabinet was an intern at the International Monetary Fund, where he worked on the determinants of global value chains' integration in Africa and contributed to an interdepartmental paper. Kabinet has publications in economic journals.

Kabinet holds a master's degree in international and development economics from the University of Paris Dauphine and Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne University.



DORGYLES CHRIST MAUREL KOUAKOU

Guinea CMU



COTE D'IVOIRE

Dorgyles Christ Maurel Kouakou is an economist specializing in economics of innovation, development economics, and applied econometrics. His latest research is focused on the effects of firm informality on sustainable and responsible innovations, the drivers of mobile money, and the infrastructure reform outcomes- social contracts link. Dorgyles holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Center for Research in Economics and Management (CREM), Université de Rennes 1 (France). He is a Postdoctoral Fellow in economics at ENSTA Paris, Institut Polytechnique de Paris (France).

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Dorgyles is working with the Guinea Country Office on the evaluation of the difficulties in the implementation of the develop-

ment programs financed by the World Bank in Guinea, and the monitoring of these programs.

Dorgyles holds a master's degree in economic policies and modeling from Université Alassane Ouattara (Côte d'Ivoire).



YAO THIBAUT KPEGLI

Health Nutrition & Population



BENIN

Yao Thibaut Kpegli is a quantitative economist. His research interests focus on individuals' choices under uncertainty, experimental economics, health economics, and applied econometrics. He is currently a lecturer both at the undergraduate and graduate levels at Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon (France).

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Yao is working with the Health Nutrition & Population unit on two analytical works: (i) a review of human capital in Guinea-Bissau and (ii) a distributive analysis of poverty in Guinea and Benin.

Yao was a research assistant from 2016 to 2018 on topics related to public health policies of West Africa Countries at "Consortium pour la Recherche Economique et Sociale" and "Action Contre la Faim".

Yao will defend his Ph.D. thesis in June 2023 at the University of Lyon. He holds two master's degrees, one in economics and finance from University of Lyon, France, and the other in quantitative economics from University Gaston Berger, Senegal.



ELIE LUNANGA

Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation



CONGO,
DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF

Elie Lunanga is a development economist with an interest in development impact analysis. His research interests include energy economics, entrepreneurial dynamics, natural resources, and conflicts in fragile developing countries. He is currently a Ph.D. student in applied economics at the Faculty of

Business and Economics and the Institute of Development Policy at the University of Antwerp, Belgium.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow with the Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, Elie provides support to the Private Sector team across various activities including lending and analytical and advisory services. He is contributing to the implementation of three ongoing projects: the Economic Transformation and Jobs Project (TRANSFORME DRC), the DRC SME Development and Growth Project (PADMPME), and the Great Lakes Trade Facilitation and Integration Project (GLTFIP).

Elie holds a master's degree in globalization and development and a bachelor's in economics and management.



ALPHA LY

Development Economics Sustainability and Infrastructure

Alpha LY is an energy and environmental economist whose research focuses on electricity sector regulation and private investment, energy access, energy poverty, challenges of electricity supply in Africa and other developing countries, environmental effects of rural electrification, and climate change.

Alpha is about to defend his Ph.D. in Economics from Paris Dauphine University, PSL Research University (Paris Sciences & Lettres) in France. He is also an associate fellow of the Climate Economics Chair, the Energy and Prosperity Chair and the Industrial Economics Chair (CERNA & UM6P). While pursuing his Ph.D., Alpha worked as a consultant for the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change on the Africa Energy Market Place (AEMP 2021) organized by the African Development Bank.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Development Research Group (Development Economics Sustainability and Infrastructure Unit - DEC-SI) on the role of financial inclusion on electricity uptake in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Alpha holds a master's degree in development economics at CERDI, School of Economics, Clermont-Auvergne University, France.



OLUDOLAPO MAKINDE

Social Sustainability and Inclusion

Dolapo Makinde is a lawyer with expertise in corporate governance, human rights (equity, diversity, and inclusion), and anti-corruption. She is also a doctoral candidate at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, Canada, where she examines how an integrated corporate governance, sustainability and artificial intelligence approach to combat corruption involving Canadian multinationals doing business in the Global South.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Dolapo works with the Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice to establish the Social Risk Management (SRM) business line which aims to support regional and country teams in developing consistent and cost-effective approaches to SRM country system strengthening initiatives.

Prior to the Fellowship, Dolapo worked as Legal Research Officer at British Columbia's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner. She holds a Master of Laws degree from UBC and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Lagos, Nigeria.



TRÉSOR MUHINDO MAKUNYA

Governance

Trésor Muhindo Makunya is a lawyer and advocate interested in the use of constitutional and legislative normative standards as a means of improving the transparency, accountability, and optimal performance of public sector (financial) institutions. He is currently an associate professor at the University of Goma (DRC) and a postdoctoral fellow and publications coordinator at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Governance Global Practice in the DRC Country Office providing research support to a project that aims to increase mining revenue transparency and improve expenditure management at the central

level and in the project provinces. He is also contributing to the development of the DRC Climate Change Institutional Assessment.

He holds a Ph.D. in Constitutional and Human Rights Law and a Master of Laws in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa from the University of Pretoria (South Africa).

You may find more information about him here <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-trésor-makunya-47b281ba/> and <https://www.chr.up.ac.za/about/centre-staff/15-about/385-mr-tressor-makunya>



CHRIS BELMERT MILINDI

Corporate Strategy (IFC)



CONGO,
DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF

Chris Belmert Milindi is an economist with research interest in applied econometrics, macroeconomics, and energy and environmental economics. His research includes studies that have assessed the impact of technological progress, financial development, and urbanization on climate change in different country income groups. Chris has recently completed his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Pretoria in South Africa.

As a WBG-Africa fellow, he is working on developing and monitoring the IFC strategy in IDA and Fragile and Conflict States (FCS), within the Corporate Strategy Department at IFC. His work also involves assisting the unit in addressing the challenges of forced displacement and emerging private sector-led growth solutions in IDA and FCS countries.

In addition to his Ph.D., Chris holds a master's and honors degree in applied economics from the University of Pretoria (South Africa), and an honors degree in financial management from University of Lubumbashi (DRC).



CHAD

MAHAMAT MOUSTAPHA

Education

Mahamat Moustapha is an applied economist from Chad. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Paris Dauphine, France. He is also an associate member of the UMR DIAL-IRD. His research focuses on the impact of private and public transfers on education, inequality, and firm performance.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he works with the Global Education Practice where he provides analytical support on access to education in Gambia, Burundi, CAR, and Benin.

Prior to joining the WBG-Africa Fellow, Moustapha worked as a data analysis and research consultant for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) where he published several reports on migratory movements in the Sahel region. He has also taught statistics and econometrics at the University of Paris Dauphine. More recently, he has worked on return migration in OECD countries with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).



COTE D'IVOIRE

BOSSOMA DORIANE N'DOUA

Global Macro and Markets Research, (IFC)

Bossoma Doriane N'Doua is an economist working on topics related to international trade, trade regulations, wood sector, and development economics. She is a Ph.D candidate at the Bordeaux School of Economics (BSE), the economics laboratory of the University of Bordeaux, France.

As a WBG fellow, she will work with IFC's Global Macro and Markets Research Department.

Bossoma holds an advanced master's degree (Magistère) in international and development economics and a dual master's degree in development economics (research & professional), from the University of Clermont-Auvergne, School of Economics (CERDI), France.



WIZA NG'AMBI

Global Trade and Supply Chain Finance,
(IFC)

Wiza is an analyst with specializations in development economics, monitoring & evaluation, and economic statistics. He is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Zambia, focusing on how developing countries may finance manufacturing development taking lessons from newly industrialized countries. His research interests include trade and development, industrialization, financial development, and the application of machine learning techniques in economics.

Over the last nine years, Wiza has served in various multilateral, public and private sector portfolios including trade and development policy, social policy research, public health, public investment, food security, SME development, and social entrepreneurship along with higher education lecturing.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Wiza is working with IFC to strengthen trade and supply chain finance in emerging markets and developing economies.

Outside of academia and international development, Wiza enjoys social impact volunteering, and morning runs, and considers, in no particular order, LeBron and MJ the NBA GOATs.



MARINA MAVUNGU NGOMA

Office of the Chief Economist, Africa

Marina Mavungu Ngoma is an economist whose interests lie in development economics and international economics. Her primary research agenda focuses on understanding how globalization and industrial policy impact structural transformation in low-income economies. Additionally, she is passionate about exploring the role of state capacity, culture, and institutions in promoting development.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Marina works with the Office of the Chief Economist, Africa region to pro-

vide support in outlining a research agenda for structural transformation, trade, and development in Africa. She also writes briefs directed towards policymakers that provide policy insights to support firms in developing countries.

Marina is on the verge of completing her Ph.D. in Economics and Public Policy at Tufts University. She holds a BSc in Economics from Université Protestante au Congo, a diploma in Public Administration from Ecole Nationale d'Administration, and an MA in Policy Economics from Williams College. Previously, Marina worked for the Office of the Prime Minister in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



ANNY LUCRÈCE NLEND NKOTT

Disruptive Technologies and Fund (IFC)

Anny Lucrèce Nlend Nkott is an agricultural economist with research interests including governance of food systems, agricultural innovations, innovation systems, institutions and institutional change, and digital agriculture. Lucrèce holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Institut Agro and Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), Montpellier, France.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working on the ex-ante assessment of projects in the digital sector at a global scale within the CDIDF unit of International Finance Cooperation (IFC). She is based in Cotonou, Benin.

Lucrèce holds a master's in agricultural economics, environment and food from Institut Agro, Montpellier, France; and a diploma of agroeconomics engineer from the University of Dschang, Cameroon.



GREGORY OBIANG NDONG

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land



GABON

Gregory Obiang Ndong is an environmental specialist on issues related to ecosystem assessment, ecosystem services modeling and mapping, water and agricultural management, and biodiversity. He is currently a program officer at the French Ministry of Ecological Transition, in Paris, France, where he leads the French National Ecosystem Assessment program (EFESE).

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Urban, Resilience, and Land Global Practice on the Lesotho Territorial Development ASA, providing analytical support, such as mapping demographic and agricultural trends, to inform place-based policymaking and prioritization of key investments for Lesotho territorial development.

Gregory Obiang Ndong holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from the Université d'Orléans in France, a master's degree in water and agriculture from AgroParisTech, France, and a bachelor's degree in environmental management from UniLaSalle Rennes - École des Métiers de l'Environnement, France.

You may find more information here: <https://www.gobiangndong.fr/>



NWAMAKA CHIDERA OGBONNA

Development Impact Assessment, (IFC)



NIGERIA

Nwamaka is a political economist with strong interests in industrialization, entrepreneurship, and private sector development. She is currently completing a Ph.D. in International Development at the University of Oxford where her research examines the role of industrial hubs in driving economic development.

As a WBG Africa Fellow, she is working with the Development Impact Assessment team at the IFC,

supporting the refinement of the Anticipated Impact Measurement and Monitoring (AIMM) framework, conducting AIMM assessments of potential IFC investments, and conducting research on private sector development.

Prior to Oxford, she led Monitoring and Evaluation for Africa's largest entrepreneurship program, the \$100 million Tony Elumelu Foundation Entrepreneurship Program.

Nwamaka holds master's degrees in development studies from the University of Oxford and the London School of Economics (LSE) as well as a first-class honors degree in economics from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana.



RUTH SAMSON

Social Protection and Labor



TANZANIA

Ruth Samson is an Actuary by training and a researcher in managerial economics currently finalising her Ph.D. at the University of Luxembourg in Luxembourg. Her primary research area is economics and management of innovation. Her research interests include human capital, mobility, organisational strategy, and knowledge creation and diffusion.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Ruth is reviewing interventions related to skills, employment, and jobs for the "Nigeria Youth Employment and Skills" ASA. The objective is to map the Nigerian experience on interventions related to skills, employment, and jobs as a foundation for providing policy insights into tackling the youth unemployment problem in the country. On the operational side, Ruth is supporting the implementation of the Ghana Jobs and Skills Project.

Ruth holds a master's degree in actuarial science from the University of Leicester.



REGINA S. SERI-ATSEBI

Equitable Growth, Finance & Institution



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Regina S. Seri-Atsebi is a development economist. Her research interests include natural resource discoveries, sovereign debt ratings, and intergenerational mobility in education and occupation. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the Center for Studies and Research on International Development (CERDI) / University Clermont Auvergne, France.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working on a project related to trade policies and climate change in the Philippines to analyze how trade policies should be oriented to enhance green trade in this area.

Regina holds a Master's and Magistere in Development Economics from CERDI. She has worked as a fellow and intern for several international organizations, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the African Development Bank, and the West African Economic and Monetary Union.



ADAM TOURÉ

Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Adam Touré is an applied economist with interests in international economics, macroeconomics, and applied econometrics. His current academic research focuses on measuring economic connectedness between countries and their determinants, and on measuring the macroeconomic impacts of economic shocks. He is a Ph.D. candidate in economics at Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Canada

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Adam Touré is working with the Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions Practice Group, identifying the drivers of the current inflation in Africa.

He completed a master's degree in financial economics at UQAM.



CHRISTIANE VOUFO

Education



CAMEROON

Christiane Voufo is a neuroscientist with research interest in girl education in the Africa region, access to quality STEM education in secondary and higher education, and digital skill development. She holds a Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of California, Berkeley's Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working with the EdTech team to conduct research on the use of technology to support education and more specifically STEM education for women in Africa. She will also be working on various projects related to skill building and improving the state of learning poverty in the Africa region.

Christiane's doctoral research focused on characterizing spontaneous activity in developing neural systems and defining the circuits involved in their generation. She plans to use her skills in data analysis, scientific research, and statistics to help develop STEM education programs for girls and women in Africa.



ABDOUL-AKIM WANDAOGO

Governance



BURKINA FASO

Abdoul-Akim is an economist working on digitalization and economic development. His work covers governance, public financial management, fiscal policy, public sector reform, and public administration digitalization. Abdoul holds a Ph.D. in Economics and a master's degree in public finance from the Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Développement International (CERDI) at the University of Clermont-Auvergne.

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Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land



GHANA

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