

2

0

2

2

# WORLD BANK GROUP AFRICA FELLOWS

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST, AFRICA REGION

### PROFILES OF THE 2022 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.



### 2000

Candidates in 2022



### 107

Shortlisted



### 35

Fellows Selected



### 10

are funded directly by various units of WBG

### 25

funded through the program



### 15

Females

### 42.85%

of the 2022 cohort)



## WHERE THEY ARE WORKING

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

Country of origin: Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Zambia, Benin, Cameroon, Rwanda, Sudan, Senegal, South Africa, Angola, Mali, Zimbabwe.

Various GPs and themes: Education, Sustainable Development, Gender Group, Digital Development, Agriculture, Governance, Health, Water, Transport, Human Development, Macroeconomics, Trade & Competitiveness, Urban, Resilience, and Land, Social Protection, Climate Change, Energy & Extractives and the Office of the Chief Economist for the Africa Region - Gender Innovation Lab.



## 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

## AFECE



### HENRIETTA A. ASIAMAH

African Gender Innovation Lab



GHANA

Henrietta A. Asiamah is an economist with research interests in the areas of Development Economics, Economics of Social Issues, and Applied Econometrics.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working with the African Gender Innovation Lab team (Washington DC) to develop a conceptual framework that will aid researchers and policy makers in the assessment of economic empowerment opportunities for adolescent girls in Africa.

Henrietta holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Guelph, Canada; a master's degree in Economics from the University of Manitoba, Canada; and a bachelor's degree in Economics and Statistics from the University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana.

ter's and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from University of Botswana and Kenyatta University respectively and is a Certified Public Accountant. She then worked as a Finance consultant in the private sector, and later as an Economist at the Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations Department with the Kenyan Ministry of Finance. Jedah is also a strong advocate for education for underprivileged children and is involved and volunteers with Modi Nereah Foundation.

You may find more information here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jedah-nyaboe-1b318795/>



### ALBERTUS SCHOEMAN

Governance



SOUTH AFRICA

Albertus Schoeman is a governance researcher whose work focuses on building institutions and improving governance to address issues of fragility, conflict, and violence. Albertus recently defended his doctoral dissertation at the

University of Sussex, in which he examines the relationship between the institutional development of the state and political parties to understand the effects of uneven institutional development on governance and stability in emerging democracies. He has previously worked on the interface between governance issues and human security in several parts of Africa.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working on projects to improve governance in the Southern Africa region including working with the South African National Treasury to improve fiscal governance in local government administrations.

Prior to his Ph.D., Albertus received a master's degree in governance and political development from the University of Nottingham (UK) as well as bachelor's and honor's degrees in political science and international relations from the University of Pretoria.

You may find more information here: <https://www.aschoeman.com/>

## EFI



### JEDAH NYABOE OGWENO

Governance (DRC)



KENYA

Jedah Nyaboe is an Economist with research interests in applied development economics and questions related to governance and human capital development. Jedah is currently enrolled in a collaborative Ph.D program in Economics at

Orléans Economics Laboratory (LEO), Université d'Orléans, France and Kenyatta University, Kenya. Her doctoral thesis revolves around three essays addressing the issues of fiscal space and fiscal sustainability in developing countries.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working on the DRC Public Service Reform Project aimed at creating open, resilient and accountable institutions for effective Public Finance Management functions and public sector administration.

Prior to her current Ph.D, Jedah received a Mas-



## ASSI OKARA

Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment (Burundi)



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Assi Okara is an economist with research interests including institutions and institutional change, Foreign Direct Investment, natural resource rents, macroeconomic resilience, firms' innovation, and labor mobility. Assi holds a PhD in economics from Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche sur le Développement International (CERDI), school of economics at Université Clermont Auvergne in France.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working on an assessment project of Burundi's current account deficit and its sustainability in the Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment (MTI) Global Practice Group within the MTI Unit in Burundi.

Prior to his Ph.D., Assi got a dual master's (Magistère) in development economics/development projects analysis from CERDI, school of Economics, Université Clermont-Auvergne, France.



## HILDEBRANDO PAHULA

Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment



ANGOLA

Hildebrando Pahula is an economist with research interests in international finance, public finance, and development economics. His current research focuses on the impact of debt relief policies on the public finances of recipient countries. Hildebrando has recently completed his PhD in economics at Coventry University in the UK. He is also an associate Fellow of the UK higher education academy.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Hildebrando is involved in providing analytical and research support on macroeconomics, debt sustainability and fiscal policy for the economy of Sao Tome and Principe in the Macroeconomics, Trade, and Investment (MTI) Global Practice.

During his PhD studies, Hildebrando worked as a research consultant for the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) in London. Prior to this, he worked as an economist in the research depart-

ment of the Capital Market Commission (CMC) of Angola. Hildebrando holds a master's degree in financial economics from Coventry University (UK) and a bachelor's degree (Licenciatura) in economics from the Catholic University of Angola.

# HD



## OMONIYI (NIYI) BABATUNDE ALIMI

Education



NIGERIA

Omoniyi (Niyi) Alimi is an applied economist with interests in improving welfare and living standards around the world. His research interests span the areas of poverty, inequality, welfare, and the distributional consequences of changes in demographic trends. He is currently a lecturer at the University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Education Global Practice in East Africa providing analytical support in the measurement of learning poverty in South Sudan, contributing to the diagnosis of skills, training and employability of youths in Ethiopia, and supporting a review of best practice in teacher policies and interventions in fragile and conflict affected countries.

Omoniyi holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Waikato in New Zealand and a Bachelor's Degree in Demography and Social Statistics from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria.

You may find more information here: <https://www.waikato.ac.nz/staff-profiles/people/niyia>  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/omoniyi-alimi-3a722333/>



## HORACE MAHUGNON AKIM GNINAFON

Gender Group



BENIN

Horace Gninafon is an economist with research interests in development economics, education and health economics, migration, and public policy evaluation. In recent

years, Horace has worked on several experimental and quasi-experimental studies in developing countries and has scientific publications to his credit.

Horace is currently a Ph.D. candidate in economics at Université Laval where his thesis focuses on understanding the impact of income and health shocks on education, health, and fertility.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Horace works on issues related to the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change and climate change-related adaptation and mitigation strategies by households, businesses, governments, and civil society organizations.

Prior to his Ph.D., Horace obtained a master's degree in Mathematics, Economics and Statistics from the African School of Economics (ASE) and coordinated several research projects at various organizations, including the Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy (IERPE), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).



## MAHLET GIZAW

Health, Nutrition and Population



ETHIOPIA

Mahlet Gizaw is an assistant policy researcher at RAND Corporation and a Ph.D. candidate at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. She holds an M.S. in global health and population studies from the T.H. Chan School of Public Health at Harvard University and a B.A. in health behavior and society from the University of Rochester.

Prior to joining RAND, she was a research scientist at Precision Health Economics, a health research consultancy where she conducted qualitative and quantitative domestic U.S. health policy research. Prior to her U.S. health research work, she worked with monitoring and evaluation teams in international health organizations to assess public health interventions in Sub-Saharan Africa. Her research interests include international health, health care systems, and approaches to improving health care access in limited-resource settings.

At RAND, she conducts qualitative and quantitative health research on HIV and mental health intervention programs based in Sub-Saharan Africa and in the United States. Her dissertation study focus-

es on assessing sustainability of public health programs implemented in low-resource settings.

You may find more information here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mahlet-gizaw-00b82526>



## WILFRIED GUETS

Health Nutrition & Population



CAMEROON

Wilfried GUETS is an economist working on development economics, particularly health economics, where he applied quantitative methods to provide evidence. Wilfried is also interested in measuring and analyzing poverty in developing countries. His research has been published in *Pharmacoeconomics* and *BMC Health Services Research*. Wilfried received his PhD in Economics from the University Lumière Lyon 2, hosted by the Leon Berard Cancer center.

Prior to joining the World Bank Group, Wilfried worked as an economist for a private Paris-based company providing technical and strategic expertise to big pharmaceutical groups (Health Economist Outcome and Research, Heor). He was teaching assistant at Ecole Normale Supérieure Paris Saclay (ex. Cachan), Ecole centrale de Lyon, Ecole nationale supérieure des travaux publics de l'Etat (ENTPE) and Université Lumière Lyon 2. He also worked as a research analyst in the Health Governance and Financing (HGF) unit of the World Health Organization (WHO) - Headquarter in Geneva.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, he is working with the Health Nutrition & Population (AFR 2) Global Practice on Health System Support Extension and Strengthening (SENI) project in the Central Africa Republic. Additionally, Wilfried also supports The Republic of Congo on Health System Strengthening, PBF and Governance project. He also contributes to the Pandemic Preparedness Agenda.

Wilfried also holds a master's degree in Health economics and international development from the Centre d'étude et de recherche sur le développement international (CERDI) in France, and a master's in Applied Economics at the University of Yaoundé 2 Soa, in Cameroon.

You may find more information here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/wilfried-guets-ph-d-377a05106/>



## LEAH GWATIMBA

Health, Nutrition and Population

Leah Gwatimba is a lawyer whose research interests include human rights, gender, global health and international development. Leah holds a PhD in Gender Studies from the University of Venda and a Master of Human Rights Law from the

University of South Africa.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, she is part of the Africa HD+ Womens' and Girls' Empowerment Team which works on the prioritization of the women's and girls' empowerment agenda at the country and regional level and contributes to increasing the number of countries with comprehensive engagements on the agenda. In her role with the team, Leah will be supporting research on adolescent girls as well as cross-sectoral dialogue with task teams on operationalizing the agenda into programming and policies.

Prior to her current appointment and obtaining her PhD she worked as a Legal Research Officer on programs that aimed to integrate elements of innovation to improve approaches and catalyse further change in the issue of violence against women and girls.

You may find more information here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/leah-gwatimba>



ZIMBABWE



## NOUHOUM TOURE

Health, Nutrition, and Population

Nouhoum Toure is an Assistant Professor (Maître de Conférences) of Economics at the University of Paris I, Panthéon Sorbonne, and a Research Affiliate at the Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne (CES-CNRS). He holds a PhD in economics

from the University of Paris II, Panthéon Assas. His research interests include the joint evolution of cultural and institutional dynamics, political economy, transmission of preferences, cultural changes, gender inequality and women empowerment. His ongoing projects focus on the link between culture and epidemic dynamics.



MALI

As a World-Africa Fellow, he is working on the impact of COVID-19 on women empowerment in Sub-Saharan African countries. Nouhoum graduated from Paris School of Economics and the University of Paris I, Panthéon Sorbonne in 2016.



## PAUL ELVIS ONYANGO OUMA

Health, Nutrition and Population



KENYA

Paul Elvis Onyango Ouma is a spatial epidemiologist who works on topics that include mapping access to health services such as emergency care, maternal and newborn care, vaccination services and COVID services. He holds a PhD in epidemiology from the Open University UK/KEMRI-Wellcome Trust programme. Prior to his PhD he worked at KEMRI Wellcome trust as a research assistant, where his work focused on mapping health facilities, assembly of predictors of malaria transmission, and mapping demographic information in Africa.

As a WBG Africa Fellow, he will work in Kenya and other focus countries to support public health care reimagination through design and application of innovative analytical approaches. He will also support the translation of this evidence into formats for discussion with policy makers.

Paul also holds a master's degree in geospatial information systems, a post graduate diploma in health research methods and a bachelor's degree in geomatic engineering and geospatial information systems.



## CHINWE EKENE EZEIGBO

Human Capital Project



NIGERIA

Chinwe Ekene Ezeigbo is a lawyer working on public policy and governance, and with a specialization in energy law. Her research interests include corruption studies, accountability, transparency, good governance and impact. She has a background in governance and stakeholder management, as well as prior work on knowledge man-

agement, monitoring, and evaluation. Chinwe is currently finalizing her Ph.D. at the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI), The University of Queensland, Australia.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Chinwe is working with the Human Capital Project (HCP), a global effort to accelerate more and better investments in people for greater equity and economic growth. Chinwe will be supporting the HCP Country Network on analytics and knowledge management.

Prior to her Ph.D., Chinwe obtained a Master of Laws degree in Energy Law and Policy from the CEPMLP, University of Dundee, Scotland, United Kingdom. In addition, she has a certificate in Harvard Kennedy School's "Problem Driven Iterative Adaptation" (PDIA) methodology to solve complex development issues. She worked with the Monitoring and Evaluation unit of FOSTER, an FCDO-funded project, in Nigeria to improve transparency and accountability in the Nigerian oil and gas sector.

You may find more information here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/chinwe-ekene-e-08159922>



CAMEROON

## SAMUEL KEMBOU

Social Protection & Jobs

Samuel Kembou holds a PhD in Economics from Aix-Marseille School of Economics in France. He conducts research in health and development economics. His health research focuses on the determinants of access to healthcare quality, incentives for healthcare providers, performance-based financing in the healthcare industry among others. In development economics, he works on welfare policies (cash-plus interventions) for poverty alleviation, workfare programs (Public works) for labor market (re-)integration, intrahousehold resource allocation, cross-cutting education innovations and parenting programs for child development. He is currently Junior Lecturer at Lausanne University in Switzerland and one of the three international research Fellows of the International Labor Organization under the Research-To-Action initiative.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, supports the Labor and Skills Global Solutions Groups (GSG) in creating and sharing knowledge on labor market and skills development policies and programs, and collaborating across regional and thematic boundaries to effectively leverage knowledge. His projects one on innovative public works across regions where he explores how digital; green and caregiving dimensions can be leveraged for a new generation of public works programs. In addition to co-leading a chapter for an upcoming report on the subject, he is providing guidelines to TTLs across WB regions on designing and implementing public works.

Prior to being a Fellow, Samuel got a Master's in Game Theory, Applied Econometrics and Experimental Economics from the University of Lyon and He also served as the Country Representative and Research Manager for Innovations for Poverty Action in Côte d'Ivoire for two years.



GHANA

## OBAA AKUA KONADU

Social Protection & Labor

Obaa Akua is a development practitioner with research interest in youth development, women's participation in the labour market, and sustainable development. She is currently a Ph.D. student at the University of Stellenbosch Business School, South Africa.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow with the Social Protection & Labor (AFR 3), she provides advisory and analytical support on gender and youth issues towards enhancing human capital investments in The Gambia.

Prior to her Ph.D., Obaa Akua worked with various civil society organisations in Ghana after obtaining her MSc. Development Administration and Planning from the University College London, UK and BSc. Development Planning from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana.



## NAKAWALA LYAPA LUFUMPA

Social Protection & Jobs



ZAMBIA

Nakawala Lufumpa is a global health and public policy expert who specializes in maternal and child health issues in low- and middle-income countries, with a special focus on Sub-Saharan Africa. Nakawala recently completed a PhD degree at the Institute of Applied Health Research at the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom. Her PhD research investigated limitations of current approaches for addressing child undernutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa and made recommendations for change to improve outcomes. Her work as a WBG-Africa Fellow centers around human capital formation in the Sahel region, and supporting adaptive social protection work in Mali.

Nakawala’s professional work experience has been in the fields of international development, global health, consulting, and public policy. In addition to her doctoral degree, Nakawala holds two degrees from the University of Virginia – a bachelor’s degree in Global Public Health and a master’s degree in Public Policy.

## INF



## STEPHEN DUAH AGYEMAN

Energy & Extractive



GHANA

Stephen Agyeman is an energy economist working on topics related to options for low-carbon energy transition for developing economies, focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa. Specifically, his publications emphasize carbon emissions reduction, energy efficiency, and renewables integration, and electricity and natural gas sector deregulation towards climate change mitigation. Stephen is currently a final year Ph.D. Candidate in energy economics and management at the China Institute for Studies in Energy Policy at the Xiamen University.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Stephen is working on Ghana Industry Energy Assessment Survey to understand the characteristics of industrial electricity consumption in Ghana. This is to assist the Bank’s Energy Unit in providing technical advisory support to the country’s energy sector development.

Prior to his Ph.D., Stephen got a Master’s in Energy and Resource Economics and a Bachelor’s in Chemical Engineering, from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Stephen also worked as a utility engineer with Genser Energy Ghana and Volta River Authority, as well as a volunteer intern with Africa Centre for Energy Policy

You may find more information here: [www.linkedin.com/in/sagyeman](http://www.linkedin.com/in/sagyeman)

## SD



## ATTE MELANIE AHOBA

Agriculture and Food (Abidjan)



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Mélanie Ahoba is an agricultural economist whose research focuses on policy impact evaluation, agricultural market analysis and agricultural project design. Mélanie is a former researcher of the Earth and Life Institute from Université Catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain).

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Mélanie contributes to the Agriculture and Food Global Practice (AGF GP) work program both in Côte d’Ivoire and Mali. She specifically supports the analytical studies and design of the horticulture development project in Mali. Melanie is also involved in monitoring grant compliance with fund management and disbursement procedures, as well as risk management, including environmental and social safeguards for the cashew competitiveness project in Côte d’Ivoire.

Melanie holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics. Prior to her PhD, Mélanie obtained an advanced master’s degree in rural economics and sociology at both Université Catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain) and Gembloux Agrobiotech. She is also a Bio-engineer from the Institut National Polytechnique Felix Houphouët Boigny (INPHB) in Côte d’Ivoire.



## MAWUNA DONALD HOUESSOU

Agriculture & Food

Donald Houessou is an agriculture economist working on topics including food and nutrition security, community resilience, common goods, urban agriculture, and food systems. Recently, Donald completed his PhD at the Athena Institute of the Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. His thesis focused on the impact of urban agriculture on food security and income as well as pathways for a successful development of urban agriculture in Benin.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow in the Agriculture & Food Practice Group, he is supporting the team in the implementation readiness of the Food Systems Resilience Program in West and Central Africa as well as the development of an impact evaluation methodology for the program. He is also providing research and analytical support to the Food Systems Resilience Facility.

Prior to his Ph.D., Donald worked as program director of ACED, a Beninese think tank working on agriculture and food security issues, where he coordinated several research and development projects in Benin.

You may find more information here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/donaldhouessou/>



## MOHAMMED BASHEER

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (South Asia)

Mohammed Basheer is a civil engineer working on topics including water resource systems modeling, water economics, the water-energy-food-environment nexus, integrated water resources management, and artificial intelligence applications in water resource systems planning. Mohammed is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Civil Engineering, School of Engineering at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom. Mohammed is also a Knowledge Exchange Fellow at the same department.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, he will work with the South Asia Region Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Unit on multiple projects related to river basin management and hazard and disaster risk assessment across South Asia.

Mohammed's been involved with water management research and consultancy projects in various regions around the world, including North, West, and East Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East. Mohammed holds a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from the University of Khartoum, Sudan, and a Master of Science in integrated water resources management from Cologne University of Applied Sciences, Germany

More information: [https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=KM\\_oVpkAAAAJ&hl=en](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=KM_oVpkAAAAJ&hl=en)



## SERGE MANDIEFE PIABUO

Environment, Natural Resources, and Blue Economy

Serge Mandiefe Piabuo is an environmental economist with a research and development interest in natural resource-based enterprise development, green growth, industrialization, sustainable development, bioenergy and energy efficiency, climate finance, and economics of ecosystem services. He is currently finalizing his Ph.D. thesis in Environmental Science with the Forest and Nature Conservation Policy Group (FNP) of Wageningen University & Research.

As a WBG Fellow with the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) Region Environment, Natural Resources, and Blue Economy Global Practice (ENB), he is working with task teams on projects and ASAs in the domain of resilient landscapes, forests, green growth, and climate change in several ECA countries.

Serge has over 6 years of experience in development economics, enterprise development, climate change, and forest policy research. Before joining the World Bank, Serge worked with the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) on projects related to developing community forest enterprises in Cameroon, and Green cocoa landscapes, Ecosystem-based

adaptation in Benin. He also worked on several Forests, Trees, and Agroforestry (FTA) research projects. Serge has a Master of Science in Applied Economics (Statistics and Econometrics) from the University of Yaounde II and a Master of Science in Economics and financial engineering from the University of Rennes 1, France.

You may find more information here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/piabuo-serge-mandiefe-874471103/>

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Piabuo-Serge>

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=iL5AxigAAAA-J&hl=en>



## KOUAKOU DONATIEN ADOU

Social Sustainability and Inclusion



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Kouakou Donatien Adou is a Political Scientist specializing in the politics of development broadly defined. He specifically looks at the origins of corruption and why some countries, sub-national entities, and individuals are more corrupt than others. He also works on attitudes toward the poor and indigenous development policies for developing countries. Adou is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Political Science at the University of Missouri where his subfields are Comparative Political Economy and Public Policy.

As a WBG – Africa Fellow with the Social Sustainability and Inclusion Practice, he works on gathering evidence of Citizen Engagement in World Bank projects as well as evaluating the emergency Covid-19 Projects.

Prior to his Ph.D., Adou worked as a research manager in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, and Uganda for US-based scholars. He is a member of the strategic orientation committee and director of the Anti-corruption unit of the Think Tank Audace Institut Afrique. He holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the International University of Grand-Bassam.

You may find more information here: [www.donatienadou.com](http://www.donatienadou.com)



GHANA

## BALIKISU OSMAN

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience, and Land

Balikisu Osman is finishing her Ph.D. in Environmental Studies at York University (Canada). Her research focuses on climate risks and households' responses to food insecurity in northern Ghana. Before her doctoral studies, Balikisu worked for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome, Italy, and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in Yangon, Myanmar, mainly analyzing policies, managing knowledge events, and coordinating project cycle activities on agricultural risk management, rural livelihoods, and food security.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Balikisu is working with the Inclusive Disaster Risk Management team to develop guidance notes for gender, disability, and citizen engagement considerations in disaster risk management operations. She is also helping with the GFDRR trust fund administration and donor relations.

Balikisu holds master's degrees in Sustainability Management from the University of Waterloo (Canada) and International Development (Poverty, Inequality, and Development) from the University of Birmingham (UK). She holds a bachelor's degree in Geography and Rural Development from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana).

You may find more information here: <https://balosman.com>



UGANDA

## LEAH MUSENERO

Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

Leah is a registered civil engineer with experience in delivering infrastructure projects across parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and the United Kingdom. She is currently pursuing a PhD in the Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation, and Innovation Centre at the University of Adelaide in Australia. Her PhD research focus is conflict management for in-

infrastructure public-private partnerships.

As part of her WBG-Africa Fellowship, Leah is working with the City Resilience Program (CRP) team to develop a Resilience Check for Infrastructure Assets. Additionally, she is providing civil engineering support to a number of infrastructure projects that are being undertaken by the CRP team.

Prior to commencing her PhD, Leah worked with TRL Limited (United Kingdom) as a Senior Pavement Engineer; the Uganda National Roads Authority as a Research Fellow; and MBW Consulting Limited as a Civil Engineer. Leah also holds a Bachelor of Science Degree (Honors) in Civil Engineering from Makerere University Kampala (Uganda) and a Master of Engineering Degree (Civil Engineering – Geotechnical and Geo-environmental Engineering) from the University of Tokyo (Japan).

You may find more information here: [www.linkedin.com/in/leah-musenero-39189420](http://www.linkedin.com/in/leah-musenero-39189420)



## BILLY NDENGEYINGOMA

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land



RWANDA

Billy Ndengeyingoma is a final year PhD candidate in Regional and Urban Planning Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science. His doctoral project focuses on the governance and project implementation mechanisms of housing cooperatives in Kigali, Rwanda. The research examines the timeframes of housing and urban development and draws attention to the socio-spatial networks built through mutual help organizations.

As part of the WBG-Africa Fellowship, he will work in the Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice. He will be involved in the elaboration of the Zambia Urbanization Review and the detailed project design and Project Appraisal Document for the Sint Maarten Housing Project.

Billy holds a master's in City Planning and a bachelor's in Civil Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



CAMEROON

## YONG SEBASTIAN NYAM

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land

Yong Sebastian Nyam is an agricultural and environmental economist with a Ph.D. in Disaster Management. His research is focused on designing decision support tools in the form of models that can assist decision-makers to evaluate the impact of different scenarios or policies in an uncertain global future. Using systems thinking tools and system dynamics modeling, he has engaged stakeholders at different levels in a participatory approach to develop formal system-based models to achieve sustainability outcomes. His focus is to create a nexus between water, land, and food systems as they relate to sustainable development. He is equally focused on understanding how communities can build resilience to different hazards using holistic disaster risk assessment tools.

As part of the WBG-Africa Fellowship, he will work in the Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice. His work will focus on urban resilience projects especially Urban food systems and disaster risk assessment in Eastern and Southern African countries. Prior to joining the Bank, Yong was a researcher in the Disaster Management Training and Education Center for Africa (DiMTEC) at the University of the Free State, South Africa.

Yong holds a PhD in Disaster Management at the University of the Free State, South Africa, a Masters in Agricultural Economics at the same institution, and a bachelor's degree in economics at the University of Buea, Cameroon.



NIGERIA

## OLUWASEUN OLOWOPOROKU

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land

Oluwaseun Olowoporoku is a registered city planner with experience in urban governance, hazards, risks and disaster management, especially in the developing world. He holds a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from Obafemi Awolowo Uni-

versity, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. His research provides empirical evidence and cutting-edge thoughts on issues bothering on hazards, risks and disaster such as people's perception and responses to environmental hazards and risks, estimate of the overall impact of disaster on the socio-economic development of cities and communities and vulnerability assessment of disaster-prone cities especially in Nigeria.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, Oluwaseun is working with the Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice (GPURL) team (and supporting the Government of Kenya) to understand the role of Nairobi Metropolitan Region as an engine for inclusive, sustainable, and resilient growth and job creation. In addition to other Disaster Risk Resilience projects, he will provide technical support for the operationalization of the Climate Action Plan in Nairobi and Mombasa..

Prior to joining the World Bank Oluwaseun was a Graduate Research Assistant in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Oluwaseun also attended the Futuring for Sustainability Summer School at Utrecht University, Netherlands and the International Summer School on Regulation of Local Public Services, Turin School of Regulation, Italy.



**CLAIRE EMILIENCE WATI SAWADOGO YAMEOGO**

Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land



BURKINA FASO

Claire Sawadogo Yameogo is an Environmental Economist working on topics related to environmental economics, sustainable development including urbanization, human capital, poverty, and globalization. Claire holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Economics from the University of Lagos, in Nigeria.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, she is working with the Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice (GPURL) team to analyze the impact of urban/rural linkage in Bobo Dioulasso, i.e., how municipal services are delivered in the city and the effects of social activities and issues on IDPs/migrants. She is also working with the team on the Sustainable and Inclusive Northern Cities Project in

Côte d'Ivoire.

Claire holds a master's degree in Agricultural Economics, Natural Resources and the Environment and a bachelor's degree in Economics from the Université Aube-Nouvelle (U-AUBEN), Burkina Faso.



**IDA GITHU**

Water



KENYA

Ida Githu is Water Governance specialist with specific interest in management of rural water supplies. She is currently a doctorate candidate at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies investigating delivery of piped rural water services in weak institutional settings.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow with the West and Central Africa Water team, Ida will be providing research support towards preparation of a potential Program for Results / Investment Project Financing hybrid operation for the Burkina Faso Water Portfolio.

Prior to joining SAIS, Ida worked as a development consultant with EED Advisory in Nairobi, Kenya where she conducted extensive research on water and energy access in Eastern Africa. She holds a MSc. in Water Science, Policy and Management from the University of Oxford (UK) and dual degrees in BSc. Chemical Engineering from North Carolina State University and a BA Chemistry from Meredith College (USA).

**IFC**



**ISEOLUWA CHRISTOPHER AKINTUNDE**

IFC-Creating Markets Advisory (South Asia)



NIGERIA

Iseoluwa Akintunde is an international lawyer who focuses on problems at the intersection of climate and development finance. He is completing a PhD in Law at McGill University, Canada, where he researches the governance of climate finance in developing countries.

As a WBG Fellow, he supports the IFC's Creating Markets Advisory (South Asia) in developing Country Climate and Development Reports (CCDRs), establishing a pipeline of adaptation and mitigation projects in India and Nepal, aligning private sector investments with national commitments under the Paris Agreement, as well as catalyzing private investments for climate action in the South Asia region.

Previously, he served as a visiting researcher at the Nigerian Department of Climate Change, where he assisted in the second issuance of Nigeria's Sovereign Green Bonds in 2019. He was also a former Mo Ibrahim Foundation Academy Fellow at the Royal Institute of International Affairs' (Chatham House) Environment and Society Program, where he researched country access and country ownership of climate finance by developing countries. In 2018, he was a visiting researcher at the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Bangladesh. Iseoluwa holds a Master of Laws degree in international law from McGill University.



## ALHONITA SALIWI MYRIAM YATIE

IFC-LAC Office (Sao Paulo)



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Alhonita YATIE is an Economist working on topics related to Crypto-assets and the applications of Blockchain in finance. She is a Ph.D candidate at BSE (Bordeaux Sciences Economiques) and teaching assistant at the University of Bordeaux.

As a WBG Fellow at IFC-LAC office (Sao Paulo), she will support the regional team in identifying opportunities in the field of Blockchain and potential roles for IFC.

Prior to her Ph.D, Alhonita holds a master's degree in Economics, Bank and International Finance from the University of Bordeaux.

You may find more information here: <https://sites.google.com/view/alhonitayatie/accueil>



## MAMADOU SALIOU BARRY

Economic Policy Research (IFC)



SENEGAL

Mamadou Saliou Barry is a development economist working on topics including climate change, financial inclusion, and the barriers to the adoption of modern and low-carbon energy sources in Sub-Saharan Africa. Mamadou is currently a final year Ph.D., candidate in Economics at the Climate Economics Chair of the University Paris-Dauphine in France.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, he supports an array of climate-related activities and products, including the Country Climate and Development reports (CCDRs), IFC and WBG regional and country strategies and climate-focused Country Private Sector Diagnostics (CPSDs).

Prior to his Ph.D., Mamadou got an advanced Master's in International and Development Economics from the Center for Studies and Research in International Development (CERDI), France.

You may find more information here: <https://fr.linkedin.com/in/mamadou-saliou-barry-b3897296>



## TARNA SILUÉ

CDI unit for Disruptive Technology and Funds, (IFC)



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Tarna Silué is an economist working on topics including financial inclusion, digital financial services, tax policies, economic growth, and entrepreneurship. Tarna has just obtained his Ph.D. in economics at the Centre for Study and Research in the International Development (CERDI), department of economics at the Clermont Auvergne University in France.

As an WBG-Africa Fellow, he is supporting economic analysis and development impact assessment pertaining to the telecom and technology sector, with a focus on Africa.

Prior to his Ph.D., Tarna got an undifferentiated master's (research & professional) in Development Economics Public Finance from Clermont Auvergne University, France.

You may find more information here: <https://sites.google.com/view/tarnasilue>



NIGERIA

## OLUMUREJIWA FATUNDE

World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center for Forced Displacement

Olumurejiwa (Mureji) Fatunde is a Ph.D. Candidate in Operations Management & Decision Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she is affiliated with the Center for Transportation and Logistics. Her research interests include manufacturing strategy, revenue management, innovative sourcing models such as crowdsourcing, and behavioral operations, with a focus on increasing the competitiveness and effectiveness of organizations in emerging markets. Her work leverages methods from diverse fields including operations research, statistics, computer science, and economics.

As a WBG-Africa Fellow, she will conduct research and provide operational support to the World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement. Her work will focus on using data to strengthen national and international support for refugees, IDPs, and stateless populations.

Before beginning her PhD, Olumurejiwa worked on several projects related to improving public health supply chains in Nigeria. She holds an undergraduate degree in Biomedical Engineering from Harvard University and an MSc in International Health Policy (Health Economics) from the London School of Economics.



KENYA

## VELMA MUKHEKHE MUKORO

Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement (Copenhagen)

Velma is finalising her PhD research at the Tyndall Center for Climate Change Research at the University of Manchester. Her research centers on the sustainability of renewable energy development in the Global South, particularly Sub-Saharan Africa. She employs life cycle assessments and participatory decision-making

approaches to investigate the sustainability of renewable energy business models in Kenya. Velma is interested in the links between clean energy transition, circular economy, innovative business models, and society.

As a WBG-Fellow, Velma is analyzing energy systems in displacement settings, focusing on the forcibly displaced and host communities to create a business case for the private sector. She is also providing technical support for ongoing projects that produce and analyze socioeconomic data to inform policy processes.

Previously, she worked as an advisor at GIZ in Kenya for a project that implemented solar-hybrid mini-grid in off-grid areas through private-public partnerships. Velma has a master's degree in Renewable Energy from the University of Hull.

You may find more information here: <https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/velma.mukoro.html>