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Contact Information (South Africa)

Economic Research Southern Africa
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South Africa

Education:

Ph.D. Economics. State University of New York at Binghamton, May 2013

Thesis: Precolonial experiences and economic development of ethnic groups in colonial Africa.

M.A., Economics, State University of New York at Binghamton, 2009

B.Sc., Economics, University of Port Harcourt, 2005

Research Fields:

Economic Development, Macroeconomics, Economic History

Employment History:

Policy Associate - Economic Research Southern Africa, July 2013 – date

Research Associate – Department of Economics, Stellenbosch University, April 2016 – date

Director of Applied Economics – African Heritage Institution, August 2016 – Nov 2016

Lecturer – State University of New York at Binghamton, Jan 2010 - May 2013

Macroeconomic Theory, Introduction to International Economy, Economic Development in Africa, Economics of Developing Countries

Teaching Assistant - State University of New York at Binghamton, Aug 2009 - Dec 2009

Research Assistant - Microfinance Division, Central Bank of Nigeria, Abuja - Aug 2006 – Aug 2007

Others

United Nations University – World Institute for Development Economics Research – Consultant

National Treasury, Republic of South Africa – Consultant

National Competitiveness Council of Nigeria - Consultant

The Guardian Nigeria newspaper - Bi-monthly contributor

Various op-eds for Business Day Newspaper, Premium times, Vanguard Newspaper and The Guardian.

Economics blog discussing issues on the Nigerian economy. 185 articles since 2009.

Publications:

1. “Mark-ups and Competitiveness of the South African economy: a firm level analysis.” with Johannes Fedderke, and Nicola Viegi. *South African Journal of Economics*. Forthcoming
2. “The trans-Atlantic slave trades and Local Political Fragmentation in Africa” *Economic History Review*. 69.4 (2016): 1157-1177.
3. “The Impact of the Slave Trade on Literacy in Africa: Evidence from the Colonial Era.” *Journal of African Economies, Editors Choice*. 2016. 25 (1): 1-17. doi: 10.1093/jae/ejv018
4. “A Dream Deferred: the Microfoundations of Direct Political Action in Pre- and Post-democratization South Africa”. With Biniam Bedasso. 2016. 52(1): 130-146. *Journal of Development Studies*. doi:10.1080/00220388.2015.1036041
5. “Social Capital and Human Capital in the Colonies: A Study of Cocoa Farmers in Western Nigeria”. *Economic History of Developing Regions*. 2015. 30(1): 1 – 22.
6. “An Examination of sub-National Growth in Nigeria:1999-2012” *South African Journal of Economics*. 2015. 83(3):335 – 357.
7. “The Introduction of Higher banknotes and the price level in Nigeria” with Ngozi E. Egbuna. 2013. *International Journal of Economics and Finance*. 5: 1 doi:10.5539/ijef.v5n1p105
8. “Naira struggles: the response to the crude oil price shock of 2014”. *The Republic*. April/May 2017

Working Papers:

1. “The Impact of Political Competition on Economic Growth”. *Economic Research Southern Africa* Working Paper no. 525.
2. “Human Capital Inequality and Electoral Outcomes in South Africa” with Biniam Bedasso. UNU-WIDER Working Paper No. 2016/100
3. “Unfulfilled Expectations and Populist politics: Exploring the emergence of the EFF in South Africa”

Works in Progress:

1. “Climate, Yams, and Precolonial Centralization in West Africa.”
2. “Emigration and education: the schooling of the left behind in Nigeria” with Biniam Bedasso and Ermias Gebru
3. “Decolonizing with data: Cliometrics in Africa” with Johan Fourie and Leonard Wantchekon
4. “Tax Appeals and Social Intermediaries in Lagos, Nigeria” with Adrienne LeBas and Ryan Moore
5. “Colonialists, Taxation and Punishment: Prisons and Labor Coercion in British Colonial West Africa” with Belinda Archibong

Other Projects:

1. Constructing alternative measures of Economic Activity: satellite data on lights at night for states and local government councils in Nigeria.

Journal Referee:

Economic History Review
Economic History of Developing Regions
Journal of African Economies
South African Journal of Economics
Southern African Business Review
West Africa Review

Memberships and Awards:

JJI Middleton Award 2015
Rosa Colecchio Award for Dissertation Research Enhancement
Dissertation Fellowship
Binghamton Foundation Grant
Binghamton University Award