

AERC Senior Policy Seminar (SPS XXV), Paper Discussant Profiles



Dr. Elizabeth Lwanga Nanziri

Elizabeth is the Director of the African Centre for Development Finance, and a Senior Lecturer at the Stellenbosch Business School. She is a British Academy Scholar and a former Newton International Fellow at the University of Oxford's Centre for the Study of African Economies. She has taught both undergraduate (Economics) and post-graduate (MBA & MPhil) students at renowned, and previously marginalised academic institutions. She has also offered guest lectures on Development Studies at universities in Europe (Vrije University & Vlerick Business School Amsterdam) and in the United States of America (Juniata College, Kansas University, University of Massachusetts). Her research field is development economics focusing on finance; behavioural economics; gender and welfare. She has experience with randomized control trials (RCTs), field experiments, household surveys and micro-data, and general equilibrium models. She is a researcher and trainer with the African Economic Research Consortium, a renowned think-tank in Africa. Elizabeth also has substantial experience with the policy making process in emerging and developing economies. She spent time at the World Bank Office of the Chief Economist for Africa region in Washington, DC. and has consulted for the African Development Bank, United Nations, the GIZ, IDRC, as well as national government departments. She enjoys the intersectionality of academia and practice, i.e., converting research into policy. Prior to her academic role, she was the Chief Executive Officer of the South African Savings Institute, under the Ministry of Finance in South Africa and the Industrial Development Corporation. She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Cape Town, an MA in Economic Policy and Planning and a BA (Hons) in Economics and Political Science from Makerere University in Uganda.



Dr. Adam Mugume

Dr. Adam Mugume, a seasoned economist, is the Executive Director for Research & Policy at Bank of Uganda. He holds a PhD degree in Economics from Oxford University, UK; A Masters in Economics from the University of Botswana and Bachelors in Economics from Makerere University

He previously worked with Makerere University as a Senior Lecturer and Head of Department of Economic Theory and Analysis. He has been a visiting Lecturer in Monetary Theory and Practice and Econometrics at the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Collaborative Masters Joint Facility for Electives Programme and Monetary Economics for AERC Collaborative PhD programme. He is a Faculty Member at the Trade Policy Training Centre in Africa (TRAPCA), under the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) Arusha, Tanzania. He also worked with World Bank between 2004 – 2007 as a Consultant Economist on Labour Market and Structural change in Uganda; Labour and growth in the Ugandan informal sector; Fiscal deficits and Debt Sustainability; Aid Management in Uganda; and other Macro issues. Dr. Mugume has extensively published on macroeconomic & statistical issues. He is a renowned lead resource person on macro-economic trainings and has made seminal contributions in modernising monetary policy frameworks especially in developing countries. He has also championed efforts to achieve improved macro-economic statistics in the sub-saharan African region and in advancing better and more consistent data management practices across the region.

He has been extremely instrumental in the successful adoption and implementation of the Inflation Targeting monetary policy frameworks since 2011, which has enabled the Bank of Uganda to maintain firm control over inflation.

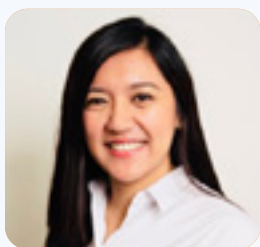


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Prof. Olu Ajakaiye

A Fellow, Nigerian Economic Society, is currently Chairman, African Centre for Shared Development Capacity Building (ACSDCB), Ibadan - a research and training Centre for Shared Development Policy, Planning, Implementation, and Impact/Outcome Assessment in Africa. Earlier positions he had held include: Director-General, Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER), Ibadan (199-2004) and Director of Research, African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Nairobi; Kenya (2004-2011); President, Nigerian Economic Society (2013-2015); Member, National Conference, 2014; Vice President for Africa, Intergovernmental Council of Management of Social Transformations (MOST) of UNESCO (2000-2004); editor, Journal of Economic Management (1995-2002); Business Manager, African Journal of Economic Policy (1994-2004) and Editor, AERC Supplement of the Journal of African Economies, University of Oxford, (2004-2011). Chairman, National Core Team for the preparation of the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (I-PRSP) (2002) and Chairman, Economic Policy Working Group of the Agricultural Transformation Agenda, Federal Ministry of Agriculture Nigeria (2014). He served on National Working Committee for the Preparation of Nigeria's Vision 2010, 2020 and Nigeria's Agenda 2050. Olu Ajakaiye also was a member of the team that prepared the Economic Recovery of Growth Plan, 2017-2020 and National Development Plan of Nigeria, 2021-2025. He also served on the Advisory Panel of the UN African HDR, 2011, Advisory Committee of WTO Chairs Programme, Advisory Board, UNHDR, New York; 2016, 2019 -2022; Commissioning Panel, DFID/Economic and Social Research Council, London,, 2015 - 2016, among others. Prof. Ajakaiye consults for several international organizations including The World Bank, UNECA, UNDP, ECOWAS, IDRC, ACBF, JICA (UK), EU, DFID, British Council, BMGF, and many Nigerian Government MDAs. Olu Ajakaiye obtained his B.Sc. Economics from University of Ibadan, Nigeria and PhD Economics from Boston University, USA. He was a John Holt Scholar at the University of Ibadan, a NISER Scholar at the Boston University, IDRC Thesis Grantee, Boston University and an AERC Senior Visiting Scholar at Université Laval, Canada, 1993. Prof. Ajakaiye specializes in development economics and has published widely in the area.



Sherillyn Raga

Sherillyn is a research fellow at ODI's international economic development group, and one of the co-authors of the paper on foreign direct investment and human capital in development in Africa under the AERC project. Sherillyn has more than a decade of professional experience on policy-oriented research covering macroeconomics, financial integration, trade, and investment in Asian and African contexts. At ODI, her latest work includes analyses on the economic vulnerability of low - and middle-income countries to the Russia-Ukraine war, macroeconomic and distributional impact of Covid-19 in the global south, country-level prospects, and challenges in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), digital trade among Commonwealth members and regional banking in Sub-Saharan Africa. She has also been involved in ODI research focusing on financial sector, food security, energy transition, and private sector development in conflict settings. Sherillyn has delivered various ODI research output commissioned by GIZ, FCDO, FSD, Gates Foundation, IDRC, UNDP/UNOCHA, among others. Prior joining ODI, Sherillyn worked as a researcher at the Philippine central bank (BSP), International Monetary Fund, and Asian Development Bank. Sherillyn obtained her Master of Science degree in economics for development at Oxford University.

