CHINEMELU U.S. OKAFOR

Harvard University Government Department

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Research Interests Political economy of development; comparative politics; economic history; cultural economics;

institutional change; political psychology; anti-corruption; social norms; culture, ethnicity, and inclusion

Education Harvard University

Cambridge, MA

Ph.D. Government

September 2021 - Present

Princeton University

Princeton, NJ

Emerging Scholars in Political Science Program

Washington, DC

August 2021

The George Washington University

May 2018

M.A. Applied Economics

The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

B.A. Economics, B.A. International Studies

May 2015

Research Experience **Busara Center for Behavioral Economics**

Nairobi, KE

Consultant (Remote)

August 2021 – Present

Advisor: Dr. Chaning Jang

Areas of focus: Funding knowledge and innovation in Africa;

Web-scraped and merged Gates funding data to principal investigator biographical and institutional data from Crossref and ORCID in R in order to understand where Gates funding goes, and to whom

Emerging Scholars in Political Science Program

Princeton, NJ

Predoctoral Research Specialist

August 2019 - August 2021

Advisors: Prof. Leonard Wantchekon and Prof. LaFleur Stephens-Dougan

Selected Area of focus: Historical applied microeconomics;

Digitized historical maps of Nigeria in QGIS to support ongoing research on the long-run effects of colonial missionary education on present-day living standards, occupation, and political participation

Empirical Studies of Conflict Project

Princeton, NJ

Research Specialist II

September 2018 - August 2019

Advisors: Prof. Tarek Ghani and Prof. Jake Shapiro

Areas of focus: Natural resource extraction in Sub-Saharan Africa;

Preprocessed spatial data and created interactive map of Africa by merging firm-level ownership identifiers of extractive sites in oil, gas, and mining, to instances of violent conflict **Selected Projects:** "Firm Heterogeneity in Natural Resource Extraction" Tarek Ghani et al.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Washington, DC

Research Assistant

February - October 2018

Advisors: Dr. Tristan Reed and Dr. Alexandros Ragoussis

Areas of focus: Private sector firm development in Sub-Saharan Africa;

Created indicators of infrastructure access and ran synthetic panel fixed effects regressions to measure inclusiveness and equality of markets to electric power and water for households

Selected Projects: Making It Big: Why Developing Countries Need More Large Firms, *IFC* 2020; Creating Impact: The Promise of Impact Investing, *IFC* 2019;

Beyond Capital: Monitoring Development Outcomes of Multinational Enterprises, World Bank 2018

The World Bank
Consultant
Washington, DC
June - August 2017

Advisors: Kinley Salmon and Nabila Assaf

Areas of focus: Major challenges to firm operations in post-conflict settings;

Conducted statistical hypothesis testing to investigate challenges to Syrian firms including

access to economic infrastructure, supply disruptions, and loss of skilled workers **Selected Projects:** Surviving Firms of the Syrian Arab Republic, *World Bank* 2018

The United Nations Joint Inspections Unit

Geneva, CH

Research Intern August 2015 - January 2016

Advisors: Jose Andres Herrera, Herve Baudat, and Maria Gomez

Areas of focus: System-wide monitoring and evaluation

Selected Projects: Wrote Management Letters to evaluate programming of UN participating agencies

The Royal African Society

London, UK

Research Intern May 2014 - July 2014

Advisor: Dele Meiji Fatunla

Areas of focus: African Affairs; African literature, writing, and art

Selected Projects: 50 Books by African Women That Everyone should Read: Part 2, Bookshy 2014

50 Books by African Women That Everyone should Read, The Royal African Society 2014

Selected and Invited Talks

Diversity in Economics Research, World Bank Group and Research in Color Foundation (2022)

African History Through the Lens of Economics, Wheeler Institute - London Business School (2022)

The Sadie Collective's Virtual Research and Networking Reception (2021)

Promoting Inclusion in Economic Research Conference at Williams College (2021) J-PAL Research Staff Training, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2020)

Launching Your Career as an Applied Economist, George Washington University (2020) George Washington University Research Days, Independent Research Presentation (2018)

Professional Distinctions

Harvard Department of Government Karl Deutsch Fellowship	August 2021
Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Prize Fellowship	August 2021
American Political Science Association Diversity Fellowship (Fall)	December 2020
Princeton LISD Global Diplomatic and Security Challenges Fellowship	September 2020
J-PAL Executive Education: Evaluating Social Programs, MIT	June 2018
World Federation of United Nations Associations, Jaipur, India	April 2015
Barger Leadership Fellows Program, University of Michigan	September 2014

Selected Awards

Princeton SIFP STEM Study Fellowship
Best Overall Performance in the Applied Economics Master's Program

Second Prize for Graduate Presenters in the Area of Economics,
Politics, and Society
April 2018

GW Merit Scholarship August 2016

Professional

The Research In Color Foundation

May 2019 - Present

April 2019

May 2018

Service Founder and President

Founded and lead <u>Research In Color</u> a 501c(3) non-profit which seeks to increase the number and improve retention of scholars of color in economics and economics-adjacent disciplines.

Harvard Resident Tutor

Specialities: French Language Tutor, Race Relations Tutor, Public Service Tutor, and First-gen Low-income Tutor; Economics and Government Sophomore Advisor

Technical Skills

RStudio, R Shiny, STATA, L $^{\rm A}$ TeX, QGIS, SPSS, Tableau, Thomson Reuters Datastream,

Thomson Reuters Eikon, Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Overleaf, GitHub

Languages English (Native), Igbo (Proficient), French (Proficient)