

# NERON SIFFLORE

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## EDUCATION

**University of Nottingham**

July 2024

BSc Economics (First Class Honours)

**School of Advanced Level Studies**

November 2019

A-level Economics, Mathematics, and Computer Science

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Best Learner Award for Outstanding Performance in A-level Economics (2nd Highest Mark in Cohort)	2019
School Prize for Outstanding Achievement, Nottingham School of Economics	2022
Dean's Excellence Scholarship Award, University of Nottingham	2022 - 2023
Best Undergraduate Achievement, Nottingham School of Economics	2023
Nottingham Advantage Award, University of Nottingham	2024
Best Undergraduate Dissertation, Nottingham School of Economics	2024
Best Overall Performance in Undergraduate Studies, Nottingham School of Economics	2024

## RESEARCH

**Undergraduate Dissertation, The Educational and Labour Market Effects of The 1976 Universal Primary Education Programme in Nigeria**

- In 1976, Nigeria introduced its free education programme that abolished fees in public primary schools and expanded the schooling infrastructure.
- Using a nationally representative cross-section of 77,390 households, I examine the programmes's effects on educational and long-run labour market outcomes.
- Supervised by Dr. Rasyad Parinduri.

**Understanding Tourism Demand in Seychelles: The Role of Income, Experience, and Destination Visibility**

- Despite its growing popularity as a tourist destination, Seychelles remains understudied in the literature.
- Applying panel fixed-effects regressions on data from 168 source countries spanning 2000 to 2024, I examine the determinants of inbound tourist arrivals in Seychelles.

**Work in Progress, Do Fertility-Related Messages by Politicians Influence the Beliefs and Behaviour of the Masses? Evidence from Tanzania**

- In 2018, John Magufuli, the then president of Tanzania, publicly condemned the use of contraceptives by women and encouraged larger families while giving a speech at one of his rallies.
- Using a difference-in-differences strategy that exploits variation in a woman's age at menarche and regional variation in exposure to the speech, I examine the effects of these persuasive messages on fertility outcomes.

**Work in Progress, The Effects of Free School Meals on School Completion, Enrolment, and Grade Progression.**

- Between 2016 and 2023, Nigerian states phased in the National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme, which offered free meals to Grade 1-3 children in public primary schools.
- Exploiting variation in the timing of programme introduction across states and cohort exposure, I estimate the programme's effects on primary school completion, enrolment, and grade progression.

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**Ministry of Finance, National Planning & Trade**

September 2024 - Present

*Economist*

*Victoria, Seychelles*

- Develop and maintain forecasting models to project government tax revenue and sectoral growth.
- Forecast weekly tax revenue cash flow to assist the government in determining the need to issue T-bills.
- Evaluate potential risks to public debt using the IMF Debt Dynamics Tool.
- Analyse the potential economic impact of proposed policy changes.
- Assist in producing documents for drafting the budget, including the Fiscal Risk Statement and the Tax Expenditure Statement.

**Data Team - Tourism Air Connectivity Committee***Chairperson*

August 2025 - Present

*Victoria, Seychelles*

- Lead a data team tasked with assisting the national Tourism Air Connectivity Committee with data analysis to provide insight on airline performance, visitor statistics, and economic impact.
- Prepare and submit comprehensive reports and presentations to the committee at specified intervals.

**Public Investment Appraisal Committee***Vice Chairperson*

April 2025 - Present

*Victoria, Seychelles*

- Evaluate and appraise major government investment projects to determine viability based on economic impact, budget impact, and alignment with national strategic priorities.
- Ensure proposed projects align with climate commitments.

**Nottingham Economics Society***Research Lead*

September 2022 - May 2023

*Semenyih, Malaysia*

- Led a group of economics enthusiasts in producing articles for the University of Nottingham audience, focusing on current economic issues and trends.
- Designed curriculum covering introductory microeconomics and macroeconomics.
- Taught introductory economics to undergraduate students with the aim of improving economic literacy on campus.
- Helped organize a nationwide economics quiz competition for secondary school students to promote knowledge-sharing across the country.

**Ministry of Education***Intern Mathematics and ICT Teacher*

March 2020 - October 2020

*Mont-Fleuri, Seychelles*

- Taught Mathematics and ICT to students in secondary years 1 through 5.
- Prepared teaching materials to enhance lesson delivery and student engagement in the classroom.
- Assessed students' understanding of the materials taught in class through written tests.
- Offered after-school tutoring sessions to help students reinforce their understanding of class material and address individual learning needs.

**CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

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**UNECA Workshop 1: A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Cruise Tourism in Seychelles**

November 2024

- Chaired the Economic Group tasked with evaluating the economic effects of cruise tourism in Seychelles.
- Estimated the potential effect of cruise tourism on tax revenue, foreign exchange earnings, job creation, and GDP over the medium term.

**UNECA Workshop 2: A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Cruise Tourism in Seychelles**

February 2025

- Validated the economic effects identified in the first workshop.

**SKILLS**

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**Software**

Stata, LaTeX, Excel

**Research**

Causal inference methods (difference-in-differences, regression discontinuity design, instrumental variables)

**Languages**

English (Fluent), French (Intermediate), Creole (Native)