

OLIVIA WIRTH

Development Economics and Political Economy

University of Passau – Innstraße 29, 94032 Passau

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EDUCATION

University of Passau

Passau

Ph.D. Economics, Chair of Development Economics

2022 – 2025

- Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Michael Grimm and Prof. Dr. Stefan Bauernschuster
- DFG Research Training Group: “Digital Platform Ecosystems (DPE)”
- Research Visit: The Fletcher School at Tufts University, invited by Prof. Jenny C. Aker

Ludwig Maximilian University

Munich

M.Sc. Economics

2019 – 2022

- Thesis: “Information on Public Spending and the Effect of Reference Points - Evidence from a Representative Survey”
- Semester Abroad: Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland
- Double Degree: Environmental Studies, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

University of Passau

Passau

B.A. International Cultural and Business Studies

2015 – 2019

- Semester Abroad: Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina

WORK EXPERIENCE

ifo Institute - Center for the Economics of Education

Munich

Research Assistant

2021 – 2022

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Eschborn

Consultant and Intern

2019 – 2021

PUBLICATIONS / WORKING PAPER

Dodlova, M., Kis-Katos, K., Kochanova, A., and Wirth, O. (2023). Mobile Technologies and Firm Formalization: Evidence from Uganda (No. wp-2023-99). *World Institute for Development Economic Research (UNU-WIDER)*.

Freundl, V., Grewenig, E., Kugler, F., Lergetporer, P., Schüler, R., Wedel, K., Werner, K., Wirth, O. and Woessmann, L. (2022). The ifo Education Survey 2014–2021: A New Dataset on Public Preferences for Education Policy in Germany. *Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik*.

Hermes, H., Lergetporer, P., Peter, F., Wiederhold, S., Freundl, V., and Wirth, O. (2021). Bewerbungsunterstützung erhöht die Kita-Inanspruchnahme von Kindern aus bildungsferneren Familien. *ifo Schnelldienst*, 74(09), 41-45.

ONGOING FIELD EXPERIMENTS

Aker J., Awonon J., Grimm M., Petrik C., and Wirth O. (2025). If you build it, will they come? Incentivizing the Adoption of Digital Financial Services in Niger

Asiedu E., Grimm M., Lay J., Petrik C., and Wirth O. (2025). Unlocking Agricultural Potential through Bundled Services? Experimental Evidence from a Digital Platform in Ghana.

Wirth O., Petrik C., Asiedu E., and Lay J. (2025). Parched Prospects: Assessing Farmers' Climate Adaptation Strategies in the Wake of a Drought in Northern Ghana.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

STEG Annual Conference and Theme Workshops, Oxford	2025
10th DENeB PhD Workshop on Development Economics, Potsdam	
39th BGPE Research Workshop, Ingolstadt	
Bavarian PhD Workshop in Development Economics, Erlangen	
36. BGPE Research Workshop, Munich	2024
NOVAFRICA Conference Economic Development, Lisbon	
European Public Choice Society (EPCS), Hannover	2023
International Conference on Development Economics (ICDE), Paris	
German Development Economics Conference (GDEC), Dresden	
UNU-WIDER Author workshop on firms and taxation using micro data from Uganda, online	

TEACHING

University of Passau

Growth and Development, Bachelor

Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods for Development, Master

Micro Development Economics, Master

Seminar in Public Economics, Master

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Languages: German (native), English and Spanish (fluent), French (intermediate)

IT Skills: STATA, R, LaTeX, QGIS, SurveyCTO

Participation in PhD Courses: Advanced Microeconomics (Zvika Neeman), Advanced Econometrics (Jeffrey Wooldridge), Regression Discontinuity Designs in Development Economics: Theory and Practice (Bruno Conte), Complex Network Analysis: Tools for Economic Development (Pau Milan)