

OLIVIA WIRTH

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EDUCATION

University of Passau <i>Ph.D. Economics, Chair of Development Economics (summa cum laude)</i>	10/2022 – 12/2025 <i>Passau</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thesis: “Mobile Technologies and Digital Platforms for Development: Essays on Firm Formalization, Financial Inclusion and Agricultural Resilience”• Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Michael Grimm and Prof. Dr. Stefan Bauernschuster• DFG Research Training Group: “Digital Platform Ecosystems (DPE)”	
The Fletcher School at Tufts University <i>Visiting Researcher, invited by Prof. Jenny C. Aker</i>	09/2024 – 11/2024 <i>Boston</i>
Ludwig Maximilian University <i>M.Sc. Economics</i>	10/2019 – 05/2022 <i>Munich</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thesis: “Information on Public Spending and the Effect of Reference Points - Evidence from a Representative Survey”• Semester abroad (DAAD Scholarship): Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland	
Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society <i>Environmental Studies Certificate Program</i>	10/2019 – 08/2022 <i>Munich</i>
University of Passau <i>B.A. International Cultural and Business Studies</i>	10/2015 – 02/2019 <i>Passau</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus areas: Political Science, Ibero-Roman Cultural Studies, Economics• Semester abroad (DAAD Scholarship): Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina	
Gymnasium-Fränkische-Schweiz <i>Abitur (A Level)</i>	09/2006 – 07/2014 <i>Ebermannstadt</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High School Year: St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists (Dance), Minneapolis, USA	

WORK EXPERIENCE

ifo Institute for Economic Research <i>Research Assistant & Intern: Center for the Economics of Education</i>	07/2021 – 04/2022 <i>Munich</i>
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) <i>Consultant & Intern: Proklima - Integrated Climate and Ozone Protection</i>	03/2019 – 05/2021 <i>Eschborn</i>
ICUnet.Group <i>Working Student: Customer Relations and Training Management</i>	11/2015 – 07/2017 <i>Passau</i>

TEACHING

University of Passau
2023: Growth and Development (Bachelor), Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods for Development (Master), Micro Development Economics (Master)
2025: Seminar in Public Economics (Master)

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

- If you build it, will they come? Incentivizing the Adoption of Digital Financial Services in Niger (with Jenny C. Aker, Josué Awonon, Michael Grimm, and Christina Petrik)
- Unlocking Agricultural Potential through Bundled Services? Experimental Evidence from a Digital Platform in Ghana (with Edward Asiedu, Michael Grimm, Jann Lay, and Christina Petrik)
- Parched Prospects: Assessing Farmers' Climate Adaptation Strategies in the Wake of a Drought in Northern Ghana (with Christina Petrik, Edward Asiedu, and Jann Lay)

AWARDS

DPE Best Paper Award

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026: ERSa Workshop and Public Lecture: Empirical Methods in Competition and Regulation, Cape Town; **2025:** STEG Annual Conference and Theme Workshops, Oxford; 10. DENEb PhD Workshop on Development Economics, Potsdam; 39. BGPE Research Workshop, Ingolstadt; Bavarian PhD Workshop in Development Economics, Erlangen; **2024:** 36. BGPE Research Workshop, München; NOVAFRICA Conference on Economic Development, Lissabon; **2023:** European Public Choice Society (EPCS), Hannover; 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

VOLUNTEERING

Rock Your Life!	02/2019 – 08/2022
<i>Mentor and Supervisor</i>	<i>Munich</i>
Voluntary Social Year	08/2014 – 07/2015
<i>Teacher</i>	<i>Panama/Venezuela</i>

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (advanced), French (intermediate), Italian (basic), Portuguese (basic)

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