

# OLIVIA WIRTH

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## EDUCATION

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

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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

## TEACHING

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### 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

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- 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

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- 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

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### DPE Best Paper Award

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**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

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

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

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- Languages:** German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (advanced), French (intermediate), Italian (basic), Portuguese (basic)
- IT Skills:** MS Office, STATA, R, LaTeX, QGIS, SurveyCTO