

Nicholas J. Wilson

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PROFILE

Economist and development researcher interested in understanding fragility. I field surveys and use geospatial data to study attitudes, beliefs, programs, policy, and political economy in East Africa. Formerly based in China, Germany, Kenya, the Netherlands, Russia, UK; now South Sudan/Turkey.

EDUCATION

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München Munich, DE
Economics, MSc Grade: 1.14, *Sehr Gut* (Top ranked student) 2020-23
• *Visiting student: Higher School of Economics - Moscow.*

University of Warwick Coventry, GB
Economics, BSc (Hons) Grade: 70, *First Class* 2013-17
• *Visiting student: University of Amsterdam.*

EXPERIENCE

Forcier Consulting Juba, SS/Istanbul, TR
Research Manager 2022-Present
• Manage an office of 18 staff conducting mixed methods research across South Sudan.
• Field surveys, focus groups, and interview programs, and analyze geospatial data and policies.
• Negotiate with clients, train researchers, supervise field data collection, manage project budgets.
• Advise on political economy and logistics of program implementation in the country and region.

University of Massachusetts (UMass) Amherst Remote
Research Assistant 2021-22
• Research Assistant (RA) for Prof. Lucy Xiaolu Wang, conducting research in health economics.
• Activities included literature reviews, data cleaning and analysis, managed several junior RAs.

Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition Munich, DE
Research Assistant 2020-21
• RA for Prof. Lucy Xiaolu Wang, conducting research in health and innovation economics.
• Activities included literature reviews, data cleaning and analysis, management of a junior RA.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Nairobi, KE
Communications Consultant 2019-20
• Served as comms & partnerships focal point for UNDP's Governance & Inclusive Growth portfolio.
• Conducted fieldwork and participated in M&E missions to more than 20 counties across Kenya.

OC&C Strategy Consultants London, GB
Associate Consultant 2018-19
• Strategy, market research, and commercial due diligence consulting projects for clients in EMEA.
• Built market forecasts, visualized spatial data, analyzed surveys, interviewed industry players.

Magic Panda International 熊猫国际集团
International E-Commerce Intern

Shanghai, CN
Winter 2017

Rothschild & Co
Investment Banking Summer Intern

London, GB
Summer 2016

Lazard
Investment Banking Summer Intern

London, GB
Summer 2015

SELECTED CONSULTANCIES

Maternal and Child Health Baseline Study in Aweil East (2024)

Contracted by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to design a methodology for and undertake a quantitative survey of maternal health and newborn care indicators in Aweil East, South Sudan.

Scoping Study on Agriculture and Food Security Value Chains in South Sudan (2024)

Contracted by Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) to undertake a qualitative analysis of the landscape, challenges, and opportunities for agriculture value chain addition in 5 states of South Sudan.

Education Research in Conflict and Protracted Crises (ERICC) in South Sudan (2023-24)

Contracted by IRC to synthesize education in emergencies research priorities for South Sudan through a literature review, key informant interviews, and stakeholder engagement workshops.

Third-Party Monitoring of South Sudan 2022/23 LLIN Distribution Campaign (2023)

Contracted by the Against Malaria Foundation (AMF) to monitor planning, distribution, and verification activities for a national campaign to distribute 5.4m mosquito nets in 7 states of South Sudan.

CRC South Sudan: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Qualitative Evaluation (2022)

Contracted by the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) to conduct a project evaluation, comprising focus group discussions (FGDs) and draw, write, and tell (DWT) workshops in Warrap, South Sudan.

Implementation of the UNHCR Forced Displaced Survey (FDS) in South Sudan (2022-23)

Contracted by UNHCR to implement a major global survey initiative in South Sudan assessing living conditions of IDPs, refugees, asylum seekers and returnees in camps and host communities.

UNICEF ESARO Disability Baseline Study (2022)

Contracted by UNICEF to produce country reports and policy briefs on barriers facing children living with disabilities and their associated programmatic needs in 8 sub-Saharan African countries.

UNDP Support to Devolved Governance in Kenya: Transformational Stories (2020)

Contracted by UNDP to contribute analyses and edit a narrative review of their support to implementation of the devolution process across Kenya, which included conducting fieldwork in 6 counties.

PUBLICATIONS

U.S. State Approaches to Cannabis Licensing (with Lucy Xiaolu Wang) [2022]

International Journal of Drug Policy (IJDP), 106, 103755 [IJDP]; *MPI Research Paper* [SSRN]
Analysis of different state-level licensing and taxation policies for the US legal cannabis market.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

ERICC: An Evidence-driven Education in Emergencies Research Agenda for South Sudan

(with Ioanna Wagner-Tsoni, Ceaser Taban, and Maartje Schots)

Synthesis and description of education in emergencies research priorities for South Sudan.

Challenges and Opportunities for Education in Emergencies: Voices from South Sudan (with

Ioanna Wagner-Tsoni, Ceaser Taban, and Maartje Schots)

Qualitative analysis of key informant interviews from education stakeholders across South Sudan.

Conflict's Long Shadow: Evidence on Education in Emergencies in South Sudan (with Ioanna

Wagner-Tsoni, Ceaser Taban, and Maartje Schots)

Systematic literature review identifying education in emergencies evidence gaps in South Sudan.

Hate Thy Neighbor? Conflict, Fear, and Mistrust in Kenya's White Highlands

Empirical study of long-run effects of exposure to clientelist land reforms on social discord in Kenya.

AWARDS, FUNDING, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

International Rescue Committee (IRC): Funding to attend CIES 2024 conference	2024
LMU Economics Alumni Club (VAC): Alumni Prize for Young Economists	2023
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD): Scholarship for Master Studies	2020-22
Erasmus+: Study Abroad Grant	2015-16

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024: Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) Conference, University of Edinburgh Centre of African Studies (CAS) and Centre for Security Research (CeSaR) Conference; African Studies Association of the UK (ASAUK) Biennial Conference.

SKILLS

Data analysis and visualization: Excel, \LaTeX , NVivo, QGIS, Python, R, Stata, Tableau.

Field research: M&E/QA strategy, ODK scripting, reporting, sample and survey tool design.

Project management: coordinate research teams, design budgets & fieldwork, manage clients.

Foreign languages: French (Intermediate), German (Intermediate), Turkish (Intermediate).

PERSONAL

Citizenship: dual citizen of Ireland and the UK (London is home).

References available on request