

# Tankiso Abiel Lefeta

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Analytical and versatile aspiring researcher possessing a Master's degree in Economics. Knowledgeable in analysing data produced by human interactions, as demonstrated in my research work with Prof. Ronelle. Passionate about economic applications and econometric data analysis procedures to address pressing health issues.

## EDUCATION

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**Stellenbosch University – Cape Town, South Africa** 2022 - 2025

- PhD Candidate in Economics
- PhD Thesis: Air Pollution and Child Stunting
  - The first part of my research focuses on urban housing, air pollution, and child stunting.
  - The second and third parts use air pollution satellite datasets to examine the impact of industrial activities on air pollution and, in turn, how this translates to stunting.

**Stellenbosch University – Cape Town, South Africa** 2019 - 2020

- Master's Degree in Economics
- Master's Thesis: Underlying Determinants of Preventative behaviour and HIV-AIDS patterns among men and women in Lesotho

**Stellenbosch University – Cape Town, South Africa** 2018-2019

- Bachelor of Commerce Honours Economics with a specialisation in Finance
- Honours' Thesis: Collateral and Moral Hazard in Debt-financing

**National University of Lesotho – Maseru, Lesotho** 2013-2017

- Bachelor of Arts in Economics with a minor in statistics

## EXPERIENCE

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**Stellensbosch University – Cape Town, South Africa** Feb 2021 – Present

*Air quality data analyst - Building Healthier Communities*

- Building Healthier Communities is a long-term, multidisciplinary collaboration research project that examines the impact of environmental factors on child stunting in South Africa. Air pollution is among these environmental factors.
- To objectively measure air quality in relation to household cooking and heating activities, I have successfully trained fieldworkers in our study communities on the use of low-cost air monitoring devices, conducting interviews, and gathering household information, including cooking and heating practices.
- I analyse air pollution data and present findings at the end of each project phase.

**Stellensbosch University – Cape Town, South Africa** Feb 2021 – Present

*Research assistant - Prof. Ronelle Burger*

- I have performed research assistance work for Prof. Ronelle Burger in 2 recently published articles:
  - Burger, R., Köhler, T., Golos, A.M., Buttenheim, A.M., English, R., Tameris, M. & Maughan-Brown, B. 2022. Longitudinal changes in COVID-19 vaccination intent among South African adults: evidence from the NIDS-CRAM panel survey, February to May 2021. *BMC Public Health*. 22(1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-12826-5>.
  - Burger, R., Du Plessis, L., Gangaldzo, T. & Wills, G. 2022. *Priority areas for reducing stunting in South Africa: Examining the implications of recent international evidence ECD Working Paper Series Ilifa Labantwana & Resep*. Available: <https://ilifalabantwana.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Ilifa-Labantwana-Reducing-Stunting-in-SA-report-V05.pdf>.
- My main tasks were conducting in-depth literature reviews for both articles.
- I have been acknowledged for my research assistance work in both articles.

**The National University of Lesotho– Maseru, Lesotho** Mar 2017 – July 2017

*Researcher- Affordability of electricity tariffs by poor rural households in Lesotho*

- Conducted a study with 19 other data collectors to analyse data on the role of accessibility of energy on consumption by rural households
- Successfully interviewed about 20 rural households in 3 villages in the rural homelands of Lesotho to capture the experiences and perspectives at ground level

- I was personally responsible for interviewing study participants and inserting responses in Microsoft Excel.
- I received a certificate of completion for pioneering this crucial research topic for succeeding diligent Basotho learners.

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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- Proficiency in statistics & econometrics software: Python.
- Operating Systems: Windows
- Languages: Sesotho (native speaker), English (professional level)
- Software systems for document preparation: Latex, and PowerPoint.
- Analytical Research
- Machine learning
- Effective writing

## REFERENCES

Prof Ronelle Burger: Lecturer at Stellenbosch University and master's supervisor

Email: [rburger@sun.ac.za](mailto:rburger@sun.ac.za)

Dr Gideon Du Rand: Lecturer at Stellenbosch University and Honour's Supervisor

Email: [gideonrand@sun.ac.za](mailto:gideonrand@sun.ac.za)

Prof Dieter Von Fintel: Lecture at Stellenbosch University

Email: [dieter2@sun.ac.za](mailto:dieter2@sun.ac.za)