**Ibrahim Mike Okumu**

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**Qualifications**

2010-2014, University of St Andrews, PhD Economics, Thesis Title: 'Essays on Governance, Public Finance and Economic Development', Supervisors: [Gonzalo Forgues-Puccio](https://www.abertay.ac.uk/staff-search/dr-gonzalo-forgues-puccio/) and [Kaushik Mitra,](https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/business/staff/profile.aspx?ReferenceId=97078) Examiners: [Keith Blackburn](https://www.socialsciences.manchester.ac.uk/economics/research/research-area-groups/macroeconomics-growth-development/) and [Alex Trew.](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~awt2/)

2008-09, McMaster University, MA Economics.

2001-04, Makerere University, BA Economics, First Class (Hons.)

**Positions held**

2018 to date, Senior Lecturer, Makerere University.

2010 to date, Research Affiliate/Associate, Centre for Dynamic Macroeconomic Analysis.

2006 to date, Research Associate, Economic Policy Research Centre

2015-2018, Lecturer, Makerere University.

2007-15, Assistant Lecturer, Makerere University.

2006-2007, Teaching Assistant, Makerere University

**Research interests**

Economic growth; Economic development; Firm behavior; and Household Behavior

[Here is a link to my research output](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=HY1X32YAAAAJ&hl=en)

**Publications**

‘Skills and Labour Productivity in African Manufacturing’ (with Joseph Mawejje), *Development Policy Review*, Accepted in 2019. In Production.

‘Innovation and employment growth: Evidence from manufacturing firms in Africa’ (with Edward Bbaale), *Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship*, Accepted in 2019. In Production

‘Imported Inputs and Exporting in the Africa’s Manufacturing Sector’, (with Edward Bbaale), *World Journal of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development*, Accepted in 2019. In Production.

‘Job flows and employment growth among manufacturing firms in Africa’ (with Joseph Mawejje), *African Development Review*, Vol. 30, No. 4, 2018, 386–39. .

‘Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Uganda: A Critical Analysis’ (with Edward Bbaale), *Development Policy Review*, Accepted in 2018. In Production.

‘Labour productivity among Small and Medium Scale Enterprises in Uganda: the role of innovation’ (with Faisal Buyinza), *Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship*, 7:13, 2018.

‘Corruption and firm-level productivity: greasing or sanding effect?’ (with Edward Bbaale), *World Journal of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development*, 14 (3), 222–241, 2018

‘Tax evasion and the business environment in Uganda’ (with Joseph Mawejje), *South African Journal of Economics*, 84 (3), 440–460, 2016

‘Contract farming in the Ugandan Sugar Industry’ in Richard Roberts, Robert Ocaya, Kirsti Roberts, Julian K. Nankinga eds. Agriculture Finance Year Book: Progressing but still facing fiscal challenges, 2015, pages 99 to 109.

**Working Papers**

***Under review***

‘Enterprise Dynamics and Employment Creation in Africa’ (with Edward Bbaale)

‘Perceptions of Secondary School Students towards Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Uganda’ (with Edward Bbaale), under review

‘Perception of TVET Students towards the Quality of TVET Education in Uganda’ (with Edward Bbaale),

‘Employer perception of TVET graduate competence: Case of Uganda’ (with Edward Bbaale)

‘Factors influencing primary school dropout in Uganda: evidence from 2005/2006-2009/2010 Panel Data’ (with S. Namara; E. Hissali; E. Baale)

‘Tax evasion, fiscal consolidation and economic development in a model with public sector inefficiency’

‘Is the informal sector a window of hope? Corruption, informal sector and income inequality’ (with Gonzalo Puccio), work paper.

‘Does size matter? Scale, corruption, and uncertainty’ (with Gonzalo Puccio).

***Works in progress***

‘Regional Trade Agreements and Manufacturing Export Participation in Africa: Lessons for CFTA’ (with Edward Bbaale and Nicholas Kilimani).

‘Gender and firm productivity: does the business environment play a mediating role?’ (with Edward Bbaale and Sunday Nathan)

‘Foreign aid, corruption and economic development’

**Blog**

[**https://developmenteconomist.wordpress.com/**](https://developmenteconomist.wordpress.com/)

**Supervision**

6 MA dissertations.

**Research funding**

July 2018 to June 2021: enhancing agribusiness economic opportunities of rural women in Uganda. The key intervention is technical and soft skills among agricultural households with the rationale of enhancing productivity and livelihoods. This was project funded by **International Development Research Center** (IDRC) of which I am the Principal Investigator.

January 2016 to May 2018: understanding mechanisms of improving the operations of Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) institutions in a bid to reduce youth unemployment in Uganda, funded by **IDRC**, I was co-investigator.

December 2015 to March 2016: contribution to the Economic Management and Governance thematic area of the **African Peer Review Mechanism** report for Uganda, funded by the **African Union.**

November 2015 to January 2016: Contribution to the Uganda’s Economic Update. I specifically contributed to the write up on the State of Uganda’s Economy. I was assigned by the **World Bank Country Office**, Uganda, Kampala.

July 2015: Value chain in the sugar industry. Contribution to the Agriculture Finance Year Book 2015. I was assigned by The **Deutschegesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit** (**GIZ**), Uganda, Kampala.

May 2015 to June 2015: Contribution to the Uganda’s Economic Update. I was assigned by the **World Bank Country Office**, Uganda, Kampala.

June 2010 to July 2010: ‘The Country level experience on the use of research based evidence to inform policy processes: What are the policy challenges and lessons learnt?’ This research was funded by the **Economic and Social Research Foundation** (Tanzania) under the support of the International Development Research Centre through the Think Tank Intiative programme.

March 2006 – August 2007: “Socio-economic determinants of primary school dropout: the logistic model analysis,” with Alex Nakajjo, and Doreen Isoke. This research was funded by **Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access** under Cornell University in collaboration with the Economic Policy Research Centre, and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Uganda).

July 2007 –February 2008: “Reaching the last 10 per cent children left out of school: investigating the role of AIDS” with Fredrick Mugisha. This was an AIDS research in Uganda funded by the **African Capacity Building Foundation** in collaboration with the Economic Policy Research Centre.

2004-06, Commonwealth Scholarship for PhD Studies.

**Teaching**

**Current (2018/19)**

Development Economics (Undergraduate).

Welfare Economics (Undergraduate).

Policy Analysis (MA)

Advanced Microeconomics (MA).

**Past**

Advanced Macroeconomics (MA).

Rural Finance (Undergraduate)

**Administrative service**

**Main roles**

2017-, School Examination Malpractices and Irregularities Committee, Member.

2017-, External Examiner, University of Johannesburg.

**Referees available upon request**