

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal information

Name: Ben Selengia Dandi.

LinkedIn profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ben-dandi-675762172/>.

Education and qualifications

PhD Economics (Cum Laude), ZEF and University of Hannover (Germany), August 2009 – July 2015.

The course included Advanced Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Development Economics, Environmental and Resources Economics, Ecological Economics, Research Methods and field work. PhD Thesis: Foreign Aid, Economic Growth, and Poverty Reduction in Tanzania.

Post Graduate Certificate, Principles of Spatial Data Handling: Databases, GIS and Remote Sensing (Good, 76.3%), ITC, University of Twente (The Netherlands), September – December 2008.

The course included Introduction and Principles of Databases, Principles of Remote Sensing, Principles of Geographic Information Systems, and a Final Project.

MSc International Economics (Merit, very close to Distinction; would have been Distinction after 2005 rules), University of Birmingham (UK), August 2002 – November 2003.

The course included Advanced Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Economics of financial markets, Econometrics with trade applications, writing a dissertation (on the Environmental Kuznets Curve), International trade theory and policy. M.Sc. Thesis: Economic Growth, Foreign Investment and the Environment in Selected Newly Industrialised Countries (NICs).

BSc (Hons) Economics (First Class), University of Hull (UK), September 1998 – June 2001.

The course included Empirical Economics, Introduction to Economic Statistics, Applied Microeconomics, Quantitative Methods for Economists, Econometrics, Game Theory, Transport Economics, Industrial Economics, World Economy and Development Economics.

Certifications

Certificate of Prevention of Fraud, Corruption and SEA at WFP.

Certificate of Ethics and Standards of Conduct at WFP: Misconduct, Reporting and Protection Against Retaliation.

Certificate of Ethics and Standards of Conduct at WFP: A Focus on our Practical Obligations.

Certificate of Ethics and Standards of Conduct at WFP.

Certificate of Cyber Security Awareness Essentials at WFP.

Certificate of BSAFE at WFP.

Certificate of Back to Basics: Food Security Assessment at WFP.

Certificate of Developing an anticipatory action system, FAO learning academy.

Certificate of Understanding Resilience Index Measurement and Analysis (RIMA), FAO learning academy.

Certificate of Managing climate risks through social protection, FAO learning academy.

Certificate of Learning Intercultural Competence at ZEF, University of Bonn.

Certificate of Summer Course for German Language, Literature and Cultural Studies, University of Bonn.

Work experience

Independent Consultant, Researcher and Trainer (Dar, Tanzania), January 2019 – Current.

An independent researcher in the areas of resilience, social protection, cash transfers, vulnerability assessment, analysis and mapping, early warning and anticipatory action, impact evaluation, monitoring and evaluation, cost-effectiveness, disaster risk reduction, food security, agriculture, financial inclusion, child welfare, education, international economics, and monetary economics. I have also worked as a consultant for Uwezo Tanzania. I have also written opinion articles in the Citizen newspaper of Tanzania.

Short-term International Consultant, UN WFP/SADC RVAA (Gaborone, Botswana, remote from Dar, Tanzania), June 2021 – November 2021.

A short-term international consultant in cost-effectiveness of Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (VAA) processes, and in the use and influence of VAA information system (citation analysis, ecosystems mapping, and episode study).

Part-time Lecturer, University of Dar es Salaam (Dar, Tanzania), April 2021 – October 2022.

A part-time lecturer in International Economics, and in Monetary Theory and Practice at the School of Economics, University of Dar es Salaam.

Program Associate, In Country Project Manager and Associate Researcher (RISE), Twaweza (Dar, Tanzania), April 2017 – December 2018.

A program associate, in country project manager and associate researcher of Research on Improving Systems of Education (RISE) programme, with Twaweza (a CSO) and Georgetown University Initiative on Innovation, Development and Evaluation (Gui2de). The RISE programme was funded by UK's DFID/FCDO and Australia's DFAT.

Temporary consultant, Uongozi institute (Dar, Tanzania), May 2016 – December 2016.

A temporary consultant involved in analysis and writing reports about the Social Economic Achievements of the Second and Third Phase Governments of Tanzania. One of the reports was used in Appendix II of a book by the late Ex-President Benjamin Mkapa.

Junior Researcher, ZEF, University of Bonn (Germany), August 2009 – July 2015.

A junior researcher in development economics and agricultural economics as well as a PhD student at ZEF (Center for Development Research), University of Bonn.

Assistant Researcher REPOA (Dar, Tanzania), April 2007 – July 2009.

An assistant researcher with REPOA (a research think tank) in the fields of economic growth and poverty reduction, economic competitiveness, social protection and cash transfers, child labour, orphans and vulnerable children, and agricultural households and enterprises.

Economist, Swiss Development Cooperation (Dar, Tanzania), September – November 2006.

An economist with Swiss Development Cooperation (a Swiss government development agency).

Customer service advisor, Barclaycard (Manchester, UK), May 2005 – March 2006.

A customer service advisor at Barclaycard (a credit card company belonging to Barclays Bank). I worked in a call centre.

Temporary enumerator, GMPTE DATA (Manchester, UK), February – October 2002.

A temporary enumerator collecting data on bus and rail passengers for the public transport agency of Greater Manchester, UK.

Competences and skills

I have competences in the areas of resilience, social protection, cash-based transfers, vulnerability assessment, analysis and mapping, early warning and anticipatory action, impact evaluation, monitoring and evaluation, disaster risk reduction, vulnerability to poverty analysis, poverty analysis, child welfare, child labour, education economics, education policy, education interventions, agricultural economics, agricultural household models, M4P, market systems development, household consumption/assets growth analysis, data analysis, econometrics, time series analysis, panel data analysis, and household budget survey analysis (using Stata).

I have competences in food security analysis, food security policy, sustainable livelihood analysis, payment instruments, technology innovations, microsimulation models, and data science.

I have competences in economic growth and poverty reduction, poverty policy, financial inclusion, economics of financial markets, microeconomics, macroeconomics, development economics, economic growth, international economics, monetary economics, natural resource economics, environmental economics, and sustainable development.

I have advanced research skills, analytical skills, problem-solving skills, presentation skills, report writing skills, training skills, team work skills, coordinating skills, interpersonal skills, advocacy skills, multi-cultural skills, communication skills, social media skills, strategic thinking skills, data collection skills, computer skills, time management skills, organizational skills and customer service skills.

I have project management skills, field work supervision skills and workshop organization skills. I have knowledge of cost-effectiveness analysis, cost-benefit analysis, public expenditure review, and public finance management.

Computing knowledge

Advanced working knowledge of various Econometrics packages (Stata, SPSS, EViews, PcGive and SAS), coding language, ArcGIS, ArcMap, ERDAS, 'Survey To Go', Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access.

Languages

Fluent Swahili, fluent English, basic German and basic French.

Awards

DAAD German PhD full scholarship, University of Birmingham half tuition fee waiver, University of Hull partial scholarship and departmental prize for best performance (class 2001), CIMA and Smith & Nephew prize for the best performance in 2nd year Economics.

Publications

Opinion articles in the Citizen newspaper of Tanzania.

The cost effectiveness study of SADC vulnerability assessment and analysis processes. A report for SADC RVAA Programme. I was the sole author.

Understanding Use and Influence of the RVAA information system: RVAA Citation Analysis and Ecosystems mapping Report. A report for SADC RVAA Programme. I was one of the co-authors.

Understanding use and influence of the RVAA information system: Tanzania episode study report. A report for SADC RVAA Programme. I was the sole author.

TaRL numeracy and literacy main report - Chamwino, Kisarawe and Mvomero. A report for Uwezo Tanzania. I was the sole author.

TaRL field work report - Kilolo, Chamwino and Kisarawe. A report for Uwezo Tanzania. I was the sole author.

Can Public Rankings Improve School Performance? Evidence from a Nationwide Reform in Tanzania. A RISE and IZA discussion paper, February 2019. I was one of the research assistants.

A RISE Tanzania Country Research Team 'Sauti za Wananchi' Education Round Data Quality Check Report. A report for Twaweza. I was the sole author.

Reports about Social Economic Achievements of the Second and Third Phase Governments of Tanzania. A report for Uongozi Institute. I was the sole author.

A PhD dissertation on Foreign Aid, Economic Growth, and Poverty Reduction in Tanzania. University of Hannover. I was the sole author.

I have written an interdisciplinary term paper on benefit sharing in biofuel production. ZEF, University of Bonn. I was one of the co-authors.

Home Truths Facing the Facts on Children, AIDS, and Poverty. Final report of the Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV/AIDS (JLICA), 10th February 2009. I was one of the research assistants.

The Improved Orphans and Vulnerable Children Costing Model for UNICEF (OVCost), Methods and results. A report for UNICEF, by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, August 2008. I was one of the research assistants.

Baseline Survey on Child Labour in the Fishing Sector in Tanzania, Final Report. By REPOA for ILO. I was one of the co-authors.

A Masters dissertation on Economic growth, foreign investment and the environment in selected newly industrialised countries. University of Birmingham. I was the sole author.

Membership

I am a member of the Economic Society of Tanzania (EST).