KEFA MAUNDA SIMIYU
+254711454732| keffasimiyu@gmail.com| keffasimiyu@students.uonbi.ac.ke | University Way, 00100, Nairobi

Name: Kefa Simiyu
Nationality: Kenyan
Year of Birth: 1995
Sex: Man
Affiliation: Committee on Fiscal Studies, University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya

EDUCATION

University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya
Master of Arts in Economics, 2022
Research paper: Explaining Gambling Behavior among the Youth in Kenya
Bachelor of Economics and Statistics (First Class Honors), 2019
Starehe Boys Centre and School, Nairobi, Kenya
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE), Mean grade: A (Plain), 2013

AWARDS AND HONORS

Central Bank of Kenya Inaugural Financial Inclusion Prize Winner 2022
Lee Schipper Memorial Scholarship on Sustainable Transport Global Finalist 2022
Nomination to UNECA-Pan African Young Economists Network 2021

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Pan-African Young Economists Network 2021- present

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

I have four years of professional experience in research. My focal points include social finance, gender, education policy, and development economics. This experience is accompanied by computer proficiency, data collection, and data analysis as well as report writing.

Department of Obstetrics, University of Nairobi
Research Assistant on the Tools for Integrated Monitoring of Childhood Infections, Aug 2022- January 2023

Research PLUS Africa
Literature reviewer for an impact evaluation project on the nexus between power dynamics and the engagement of women and youth in participatory governance and development, May 2022

Committee on Fiscal Studies, University of Nairobi
Research Trainee on various projects related to debts in Africa, fiscal policy, and tax evasion, Aug 2021- present

PUBLICATIONS

"Governance and Institutions in Development in Africa," joint with Dr. Samuel Nyandemo, forthcoming as a book chapter.

"Explaining Gambling Behavior among the Youth in Kenya," joint with Dr. Dickson Wandeda, forthcoming as a book chapter in Financial Inclusion Statistics by the Central Bank of Kenya.

"Can Gender Explain Export Efficiency? Evidence from Cross-Country Surveys," joint with Beatrice Mbinya, forthcoming in *WTO Chairs Program Conference Proceedings 2022*.

"Assessing 'What Works' for Women's Economic Empowerment," joint with Beatrice Mbinya, in *Pathways to African Feminism and Development*, Volume 6, Issue 2 (2022), pp. 61-82.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

"Drivers of Clean Cooking Fuels in Kenya," joint with Beatrice Mbinya, accepted for presentation at the 20th World Congress of the International Economics Association, December 11-15th, 2023, Universidad EAFIT, Medellin, Colombia.

"Explaining Capacity Utilization among Firms in Kenya," joint with Beatrice Mbinya, presented at the 2023 Belt and Road Initiative Conference, February 7-9th, 2023, University of Nairobi.

"Explaining Gambling Behavior among the Youth in Kenya," joint with Dr. Dickson Wandeda, presented at the University Research Seminar during the 2022 Financial Inclusion Statistics Conference, November 8-11th, 2022, University of Nairobi, Nairobi.

"Signaling: Family Considerations and Covid-19 Risk Aversion in Kenya," revised; joint with Beatrice Mbinya, presented at the 5th KIPPRA Annual Regional Conference, June 15-17th, 2022, Kenya School of Government, Nairobi.

"Digital Platforms: Competition and Consumer Protection in Africa," joint with Beatrice Mbinya, presented at the 8th Annual Symposium on Competition Law and Policy, virtual, September 28-29th, 2021, Competition Authority of Kenya and the University of Johannesburg.

RELEVANT TRAININGS

"Firms and Development: Virtual PhD Course," Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD) and the International Growth Centre (IGC), January-February, 2023.

"Macroeconomic Modeling for Sustainable Development in Africa," African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP-UNECA), October 2021-Present.

KEFA MAUNDA SIMIYU
+254711454732| keffasimiyu@gmail.com| keffasimiyu@students.uonbi.ac.ke | University Way, 00100, Nairobi

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Explaining Household Financial Health in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands in Kenya," joint with Beatrice Mbinya, Vivian Ngumi, and Moses Muchiri, to be presented at the 6th Annual Regional Research Conference, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis.

"Peer Effects, Warning Messages, and Problem Gambling in Kenya," joint with Dr. Laura Nelima, commissioned by the Busara Center for Behavioral Economics.

"Explaining the Labor Market Disconnect among Victims of Forced Displacements in Kenya," submitted in line with the call for proposals by the African Economic Research Consortium.

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

Co-founder to community-based organizations: Community Development Adventure (2015) and Father's Hand (2020)
Founder to the Economics Scholar Panel, University of Nairobi (2018)
Member to the Kenya National Debate Council (2018- present)
Member to youth advocacy initiatives: the Youth Agenda (2011-2013) and Yes Youth Can (2014- present)

HOBBIES

I enjoy trying out new ideas and coming across new challenges, listening to stories about the lived experiences of others, mobilizing funds towards charitable courses, biking, debating, researching, engaging in environmental courses, and participating in conferences as well as playing tchoukball and writing plays and poems.

REFEREES

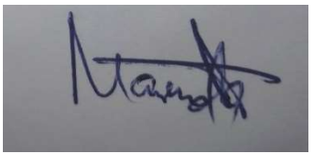
Dr. Samuel Nyandemo
Senior Lecturer,
Department of Economics and Development Studies,
University of Nairobi,
P.O. Box 30197-00100,
Nairobi, Kenya.

nyandemo.samuel@uonbi.ac.ke
+254722819370

Prof. Germano Mwabu,
Emeritus Professor,
Department of Economics and Development Studies,
University of Nairobi,
P.O. Box 30197-00100,
Nairobi, Kenya.

mwabu@uonbi.ac.ke and gmwabu@gmail.com
+254721565387

Signed by:
Kefa Simiyu
+254711454732



May 21st, 2023