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# Ariadna Anisimov

— Post-doc researcher

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Adaptation
- Loss and Damage
- Climate negotiations
- Small island developing states

## ABOUT ME

I am a FWO postdoctoral researcher on climate change adaptation at the Institute of Development Policy (IOB). My research applies a critical lens to adaptation governance and structural vulnerability; and analyses ground rooted cases to identify gaps and opportunities to reform international climate policy responses and finance under the UNFCCC. My postdoc project focuses on adaptation limits, Loss and Damage and habitability in the context of Small Island Developing States.



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# Hadassah Arian

— PhD student

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## KEYWORDS

- Cobalt
- Responsible sourcing
- Mining
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Supply chain governance

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD-candidate at IOB, with a background in International Relations and Conflict Studies. My research focusses on the cobalt supply chain and the mining environment in Lualaba and Haut-Katanga provinces in the DRC. More specifically, my research critically questions the power relations at play in the 'responsible sourcing' framework and how this is changing the global supply chain governance formation.



# Danny Cassimon

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- external debt sustainability
- debt relief
- policy support
- finance for development

## ABOUT ME

My research focuses on external debt sustainability and the relevance of debt relief initiatives. Furthermore I have always been active in providing policy support research to the Belgian development cooperation, and to other bilateral as well as multilateral donors. I also inquire into broader 'Finance for Development' issues, such as related to innovative development financing and to the application of 'real option' theories to financing mechanisms and decision making within a development context.



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# Lara Collart

— PhD student

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## KEYWORDS

- DR Congo
- Natural resources
- Electric Cooking
- Conflict

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD student in Development and Environmental Economics at the Institute of Development Policy (IOB) in Antwerp. I collaborate with the Virunga Foundation in DRC on research related to deforestation, charcoal consumption, conflict and clean energy transition.



# Tom De Herdt

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- capabilities
- economic development
- poverty
- local governance
- DR Congo

## ABOUT ME

I have inquired into the domains of poverty alleviation, capabilities, local governance and practical norms. I have published mainly on poverty, regress and development in Congo-Kinshasa but have occasionally done some work on Nicaragua, Rwanda and Cameroon. I am actually focusing my research and policy advisory work on local aspects of public action in DRC. I also coordinated a consultancy project on the sector of primary education in DRC on behalf of UNICEF.



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# Roos Derrix

— PhD student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Forced migration
- International relations
- Multi-level governance
- Power relations

## ABOUT ME

As a FWO PhD fellow, I focus my doctorate on the emergence, negotiation, and implementation of Uganda's refugee policies together with prof. Kristof Titeca and dr. Milena Belloni. As these national policies are co-shaped by actors on the local and international level, I'll conduct interviews with various actors on all levels, to get a better insight into the global refugee policy cycle.



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# Tomaso Ferrando

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- food systems
- global value chains
- commons
- financialization

## ABOUT ME

My main line of research focuses on the link between law and food, with particular attention to the international dimension (trade, investments and the human right to food) and the implementation of local practices. My second line of research concerns the socio-legal-financial construction of Green Bonds as a new/old form of financing that combines the instrument of debt with the desire of building sustainable and green futures.





# Sara Geenen

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- Extraction
- Mining
- Labour
- Ethical supply chains
- Qualitative methods

## ABOUT ME

I am associate professor in International Development, Globalization and Poverty at the Institute of Development Policy. I am codirector of the Centre d'Expertise en Gestion Minière (CEGEMI) at the Université Catholique de Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). My current research interests lie in the global and local development dimensions of extractivist projects, addressing questions about more socially responsible and inclusive forms of globalization.





# Nathalie Holvoet

— Professor | Chair IOB

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- monitoring & evaluation (M&E)
- gender and intersectionality
- community based M&E/citizen science
- (unconditional) cash transfers
- Tanzania/Uganda/Ethiopia

## ABOUT ME

My expertise is in the area of monitoring and evaluation methods/policies/systems and gender & intersectionality. Recent projects focus on (gender-sensitive) community based monitoring & citizen science; sustainable impact of unconditional cash transfers; gender & climate change; alumni barometer impact study. I'm involved in various long-term academic partnerships in Uganda & Tanzania.



# Mark Marvin Kadigo

— Academic assistant | Phd student

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## KEYWORDS

- Migration
- Refugees
- Coping strategies
- Local integration
- Sustainable development

## ABOUT ME

I am a teaching and research assistant (AAP), and Ph.D. candidate in Development Studies. My doctoral study is on refugees and host communities; specifically investigating the socio-economic dynamics, attitudes and perceptions within a refugee hosting context, and the related outcomes. However, my research interests are broadly on the migration and sustainable development nexus.



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# Vijay Kolinjivadi

— Post-doc researcher

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## KEYWORDS

- Political Ecology
- Ecological Economics
- Social Ecology
- Human Geography
- Sustainability Studies

## ABOUT ME

My research focus is the political economy of environmental policy interventions. I explore the structural asymmetries of power that reside across racial, gender, class, and caste lines in 'greening' development, as well as the equity and justice dimensions of how ecologies are (de)constructed through the sustainability discourse. I examine popular conservation and environmental policy tools such as "Payments for Ecosystem Services", in South and Central Asia as well as in North America.



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# Moisés Kopper

— Research professor

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## KEYWORDS

- Datafication & Citizenship
- Statecraft & (Post)Neoliberalism
- Subjectivity, Class & Collective Action
- Ethnography & Qualitative Methods
- Brazil & Latin America

## ABOUT ME

As a Research Professor at the IOB, I lead the ERC-funded Starting Grant “InfoCitizen,” which explores the politics and poetics of datafication among marginalized groups in Brazil, Portugal, Germany, Tanzania, and Kenya. A former Marie Curie and Alexander von Humboldt fellow, my research has tracked the knowledge regimes that sustain national utopias and the grassroots activisms, resistances, and alternatives to development. My recent book, *Architectures of Hope*, chronicles how low-income Brazilians navigated political participation and low-income consumerism to achieve infrastructural citizenship in the country’s largest-ever public housing program.



# Nadia Molenaers

— Professor

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- development cooperation
- aid effectiveness
- role of political institutions for development
- aid fragmentation
- governance

## ABOUT ME

Nadia holds a Phd in Political Science. For her PhD she researched the role of social capital for micro-credit project performance in rural Nicaragua. This research led her to a growing interest in the interaction between external actors/interventions and local governance practices. Today she mainly focusses on international actors in the global north and how they conceptualize and implement 'solutions' for global public good challenges (climate, security...) and development challenges in the global south.



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# Bossissi Nkuba

— Professor

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Natural resource governance
- Environment & ESIA
- Mining
- Water
- Agriculture

## ABOUT ME

I am a professor at the Institute of Development Policy (IOB) of UAntwerpen, the Earth Science dpt of RMCA, and the Mining Center (CEGEMI) of UCBukavu. My research focuses on socioenvironmental impacts of mining of gold, cobalt, copper, sand, water, etc. I also focus on public outreach, through diverse media, such as the award-winning documentary 'Cobalt Rush'; the comic novel 'Fièvre de l'or', public exhibitions; podcast, radio, and TV interventions, etc.





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# René Rodríguez Fabilena

— PhD student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Environmental Governance
- Environmental conflicts
- Uneven mobilities
- Central America
- Decoloniality

## ABOUT ME

My research interests focus on environmental and climate governance and social conflict.

Specifically, I explore the link between territorial and agrarian conflicts with socio-cultural diversity, uneven mobilities, and power relations in Central America. My current work is inspired by contributions from political ecology, development studies, and decolonial theories.





# Fergus Simpson

— Post-doc researcher

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## KEYWORDS

- Natural Resources
- Conservation
- Extraction
- Armed Conflict
- DRCongo

## ABOUT ME

I am a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Development Policy. My research takes a close look at the intersection of armed mobilisation, environmental conservation and natural resource extraction in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).



# Olivier Sterck

— Professor

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Refugee Economies
- Impact evaluations
- Cash transfers
- Poverty

## ABOUT ME

I am Associate Professor at the University of Antwerp and the University of Oxford, and the lead economist of the Refugee Economies Programme (REP). With the REP and the World Food Programme, I have been studying the impact of various cash transfer models on the socio-economic outcomes of refugee households and refugee businesses in Kenya. With the World Bank, I have been evaluating the impact of cash-based assistance in Comoros and Tunisia, and developing a new index to measure welfare, poverty, and inequality.



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# Nik Stoop

— Post-doc researcher

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## KEYWORDS

- armed conflict
- migration
- natural resources
- health
- DR Congo

## ABOUT ME

I hold an FWO senior post-doctoral scholarship. My research is situated at the nexus between socio-economic development, conflict and nature conservation. Geographically, I mostly work on Sub-Saharan Africa, with a focus on the Democratic Republic of Congo. I try to answer policy-relevant questions, such as: How do mineral resources relate to armed conflict? Does trust in public institutions affect the uptake of vaccines? What motivates people to help displaced persons? Does electrification impact socio-economic development, security and conservation?



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# Diana Tiholaz

— Academic assistant | Phd student

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## KEYWORDS

- Community-based monitoring
- Citizen Science
- Co-creation
- Mixed methods
- Tanzania

## ABOUT ME

I am a Ph.D. student and teaching and research assistant. My doctoral study conceptualizes community-based monitoring and citizen science as co-creation initiatives inviting stakeholders to contribute to policymaking. I apply mixed methods to understand the impact of these initiatives on citizens in Tanzania and how communities perceive and embed these initiatives into their systems of norms, practices, and social relations. I am also involved in teaching such courses as research methods and quantitative evaluation methods.



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# Kristof Titeca

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- Governance
- Armed conflict
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Uganda
- Photography

## ABOUT ME

My research focusses on governance and armed conflict in Central and Eastern Africa, with a particular focus on Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. I have an added interest in the use of photography in my wider research practice.



# Gert Van Hecken

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- sustainable development
- Nicaragua
- ecosystems
- agricultural development
- green economy

## ABOUT ME

My research focuses on the politics of knowledge in conservation and development, on critiques of neoliberal natures and 'green economy' proposals, on alternative (transformational) paradigms, social movements and processes related to degrowth, as well as on other processes of (re)imagining and (re)enacting alternative social-ecological futures. My theoretical approach is interdisciplinary and draws largely from the fields of political ecology, ecological economics, and critical geography. I teach various courses on the political economy of social and ecological change, as well as on qualitative methodologies for research and evaluation.





# Stef Vandeginste

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- law and development
- transitional justice
- constitutional law and history
- peace and conflict
- human right

## ABOUT ME

My research focuses on politics, peace, power and law with a particular interest in the Central African Great Lakes Region in general and Burundi more specifically.

I supervise(d) doctoral research on a variety of topics including: rebel movement to political party transitions; the promotion of constitutional governance by the African Union; electoral dispute settlement in DRC and Burundi; the contemporary salience of ethnicity in Burundi; elections, donors and legitimacy; power-sharing in Burundi; Burundi's constitutional court and the rule of law.





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# Juan Sebastián Velez Triana

— Academic assistant | Phd student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Political ecology
- Peasant communities
- Rural territorialities
- Environmental justice

## ABOUT ME

I am an academic assistant and PhD student at the Institute of Development Policy (IOB), and a research associate at the Center for Alternatives to Development-CEALDES in Colombia. I am currently doing my PhD research about environmental conflicts in the Andes highlands of Colombia related to the strengthening of protected areas over peasant territories and the emergence of rural territorialities as alternatives to these conflicts. In broader terms, I focus my research interests in the field of political ecology, environmental anthropology and human geography, with a particular focus on peasant communities and protected areas of Colombia.



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# Marijke Verpoorten

— Professor

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## KEYWORDS

- Armed conflict
- Natural resources
- DR Congo
- Rwanda
- Benin

## ABOUT ME

My research focuses on the economic causes and consequences of armed conflict; on natural resources, global supply chains, magicoreligious beliefs; and more broadly, on the economic and institutional development of Sub-Saharan Africa, with a special focus on Rwanda, Benin and DR Congo.



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# Cassandra Vet

— Academic assistant | Phd student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- illicit financial flows
- global tax governance
- global wealth chains
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- transfer pricing

## ABOUT ME

I am PhD Candidate at the University of Antwerp with Master in Political Science and an Advanced Master in Globalisation and Development. In my project, I study the interconnectedness of global- and national efforts to curb corporate tax avoidance through transfer pricing governance, and emphasize transnational power dynamics as well as national, and regional, agency in international tax.



# Linda Khumalo

— Post-doc researcher

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Evaluation,
- Decoloniality,
- Transformative evaluation
- Indigenous knowledges,
- Power asymmetries

## ABOUT ME

I am postdoctoral researcher working on the decolonial turn in development Monitoring and Evaluation. I have previously examined the relationship between participatory development communication and transformative power and how this relationship affects social change in local communities. I am interested in understanding epistemological asymmetries and transformative evaluation in Africa.



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# Daniela Linkevicius DeAndrade

— Post-doc researcher

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## KEYWORDS

- Datafication
- Population Census
- Authority
- Web History

## ABOUT ME

I am a postdoctoral researcher who is part of the ERC "InfoCitizen" project. My research aims to map the controversies surrounding the inclusion of ethnocultural data collection practices in Portugal's population census, with a focus on understanding the effects of past and present top-down, citizen-centred datafication.

Previously, I have also worked with Web History, researching the development of authority structures in the digital space, and collaborated with the Brazilian Ministry of Health on multiple research projects related to homelessness and socially vulnerable populations.



# Berta Fernández Nuez

— PhD Student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Kenya & Tanzania
- Everyday capabilities
- Data visualizations
- Technology
- Senses

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD student involved in the ERC InfoCitizen project, with a background in International Relations and African Studies. My research looks at everyday datafication initiatives conducted by Kenyan and Tanzanian NGOs. It specifically experiments with data visualization methodologies and co-creation assemblages to critically question how citizen's everyday datafied realities are affected by their capabilities, technological structures and senses.





# Alina Kiel

— PhD Student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Datafication
- Collective action
- Intersectionality
- Citizenship

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD-candidate who is part of the ERC “InfoCitizen” project. In my PhD research, I turn an ethnographic eye to bottom-up, citizen-centered datafication initiatives that aim to collect alternative census data on and with marginalized citizen in Brazil and Germany. More specifically, my analysis delves into the technopolitical infrastructure of grassroots datafication and its political impact, as well as the affective implications that engagement in producing and circulating data from the bottom-up has on identity, subjectivity, and the imaginaries and practices of citizenship.





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# Benjamin Muhoza Kanze

— PhD student

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## KEYWORDS

- Land conflicts
- Urbanization
- Firm dynamics
- DRC

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD candidate in Development Studies at IOB. My doctoral study is on the drivers of unequal development in DRC looking at the dynamics of land access in a context of rapid urbanization. I use both qualitative and quantitative tools to understand the mechanisms that drive unequal accumulation capabilities. My research interests are also on firm especially SMEs dynamics in fragile institutional settings.



# Alder Contreras

— Academic assistant | Phd student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Agriculture
- Family labor farms
- Capitalist development
- Transformation
- Agent-based modelling

## ABOUT ME

I am a research and teaching assistant and a Ph.D. researcher. My research focus on the effects of broader processes of industrial capitalist development on rural and agricultural settings in the global south. I am particularly interested in analyzing policy interventions and initiatives based on green microfinance and ecosystem services approaches, and the utilization of participatory and spatially explicit agent-based models as tools for imagining more sustainable futures.



# Baudoin Koussognon

— Academic assistant | Phd student

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## KEYWORDS

- Sustainable development
- Flood-prone communities
- Toilet Linked Biogas Plants
- Climate change
- Carbon market

## ABOUT ME

I am a Teaching and Research Assistant (AAP) and a Ph.D. candidate in Development Studies. My doctoral research focuses on sustainable development issues in marginalized communities, specifically in floating and flood-prone communities. Currently, my research is centered on Benin, aiming to address these issues while enhancing the quality of life for these populations.



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# Frank Ahimbisibwe

— Guest Professor

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Forced Migration
- Refugees
- Host Communities
- International Relations
- Human Rights

## ABOUT ME

My research focuses on refugees, forced migration, human rights and international relations in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa, with a particular focus on Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)



# Adriana Oliveres Mallol

— Phd student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- labour
- Malawi
- Urbanisation,
- Spatial inequality

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD candidate at the Institute of Development Policy (IOB). I hold a Double bachelor's degree in Law and Economics from Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) in Barcelona and a Master's degree in Economics from KULeuven. My research is situated within the Antwerp Interdisciplinary Platform for Research into Inequality (AIPRIL) which aims to understand how socioeconomic inequalities are changing. My primary focus lies in exploring labour changes and dynamics in Malawi, with an emphasis on seasonality and urbanisation. I also work with satellite imagery to proxy for spatial inequality within Africa's urban agglomerations.



# Divin-Luc Bikubanya

— Academic assistant | Phd student

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## KEYWORDS

- Extractive Sector
- Value Chain
- Construction
- Industrialisation
- Great Lakes Africa

## ABOUT ME

I am a teaching assistant and doctoral researcher at IOB. As a teaching assistant, I am particularly involved in the research in development context and qualitative research courses. My research focuses on the process of (de/re-) industrialization and the governance of the construction materials supply chain in the Great Lakes Region of Africa.



# Sara Dewachter

— Post-doctoral researcher

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## KEYWORDS

- M&E
- Community based monitoring & citizen science
- social network analysis
- alumni,
- Uganda,
- Tanzania

## ABOUT ME

I work part-time as a postdoctoral researcher and as an IOB education Policy support on the alumni, promotion and internationalisation policy and innovation. I am interested in (political) participation, civil society, social capital, social network analysis, Monitoring and Evaluation, national evaluation societies (VOPEs), community based monitoring, citizen science, cash transfers among other topics. I also co- coordinate several (action) research projects ( e.g Women Water Watch, Fuatilia Maji, ...) with Prof Nathalie and patner universities such as Mzumbe University, Uganda Christian University, De La Salle University as well as with alumni involved as co-researchers.





# Bahati Mastaki Olivier

— Phd student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Natural resources
- Human resources management
- Donor funds
- Public administration
- Carbon tax
- Bureaucracy

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD candidate at IOB in Development studies with background in Ecology and Environmental management in Developing countries. My research focuses on the understanding of human resources management in Democratic Republic of Congo's civil service, especially in the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development in Kinshasa. Building on a 'real governance' literature, I am analyzing the intersection between natural resources management, environmental taxes (e.g. carbon tax) and donors funds on the day to day human resources management and functioning of the bureaucracy.



# Anuarite Bashizi

— Post-doc Researcher

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## KEYWORDS

- Social protection
- Environmental conflicts
- Territorial conflicts
- Mining sector
- Ecological transition
- Compounded crises

## ABOUT ME

I am a postdoctoral researcher involved in the PSP project "Social Protection, Inequality, and Inclusive Growth,". I am responsible for communication and outreach strategy for the project. My specialization lies in environmental and territorial conflicts, with a particular focus on issues related to the mining sector in the DRC. I also conduct research at UCLouvain on ecological transition issues in the DRC. Additionally, I have worked on compounded crises in rural areas of the Great Lakes region in Africa. I am deeply involved in research development in the DRC through various projects and institutions (e.g., CEGEMI, Angaza Institute, Réseau JUWA, etc.).



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# Nada Rostom

— DOCPRO PhD researcher

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## KEYWORDS

- Development Economics
- Migration
- Climate change
- Labour Economics
- Impact Evaluation

## ABOUT ME

I am a DOCPRO PhD researcher. I am affiliated to IOB as a BAP, and to the department of business and economics as a PhD student in applied economics.

My research mostly focuses on the developmental impact of migration on vulnerable populations in various settings; From examining the impact of forced and organized international movement of refugees, to the impact of climate change on the internal movements and structural change of farmers. In my research I mostly focus on the impact evaluation of social programs using experimental and quasi-experimental techniques.



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# Denis Samnick

— Academic assistant | Phd student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Prisons
- Governance
- Armed violence
- Urban crime

## ABOUT ME

I am an academic assistant and junior researcher at the IOB. I hold a Master's degree in Political Sociology from the University of Douala in Cameroon, and an Erasmus Mundus Master's degree in Intercultural Mediation: Crises, Conflicts and Civil Society, obtained simultaneously at the University of Lille (France), Cheikh Anta Diop University (Senegal) and Babes Bolyai University (Romania). My research topics focus on prison governance, armed violence and urban crime in Central Africa.



# Stephanie Garcidueñas Nieto

— Academic assistant | Phd student

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Green Bonds.
- Sustainable Finance.
- Inequality.
- Climate Justice.
- Urban political ecology.

## ABOUT ME

I am an academic assistant and a Ph.D. candidate at IOB. I've previously obtained an interdisciplinary M.A. in Latin American Studies by the University of Vienna and a B.S. in Economics with a focus on public policy by the UMSNH University. My current research focuses on green municipal bonds, and through these instruments, it links the political economy of climate finance with climate justice. I am particularly interested in analyzing the development of green bonds, specifically in cities, and compare these complex processes in North and South geographies to wider climate governance aims (i.e. with its respective power relationships, struggles, etc.) more visible.



# Elias Maombi Ndatabye

— Phd student

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## KEYWORDS

- Impact evaluation
- Access to electricity
- Natural disasters
- Natural resources
- Conflicts
- DRC

## ABOUT ME

As a PhD Student, I work on a Development Evaluation project that measures the impact of electricity provision on economic development, security and conservation. The case study focuses on rural and urban localities nearby Virunga National Park, in North Kivu, DR Congo. My research interests also include disaster risk management and natural resources.





# Richard Toppo

— Post-doc researcher

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Indigenous communities
- Bauxite mining
- Social movement.

## ABOUT ME

I study the social-economic-political conditions of communities, mostly indigenous, living at the peripheries of bauxite mining sites in the eastern Indian state of Jharkhand. These communities live atop dying lands, owing to the environmental degradation as a result of mining, and are forced into adverse social and economic engagements with the state and other institutions to sustain their livelihoods. I also assess how communities resist such adverse incorporation through mass mobilization. Secondly, I delve into the presence of non-state actors such as armed insurgents in these spaces, who intimately and profoundly affect the socio-economic conditions of the people.





# George Mavrotas

— Professor

## CONTACT

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## KEYWORDS

- Development economics
- Development finance
- Foreign aid
- Food security
- Urbanization and development

## ABOUT ME

I am a development economist with about 35 years of experience in international development. Since 2020, I am a Full Professor at the Institute of Development Policy, University of Antwerp, having previously held senior research management positions at IFPRI, GDN and UNU-WIDER and Faculty of Economics positions at the Universities of Oxford and Manchester, UK. My research areas include development finance, foreign aid effectiveness, food security, and urbanization and development, among others. Find my scholarly work in this [link](#).



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# Guilherme Queiroz Alves

— Phd student

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## KEYWORDS

- Datafication & Citizenship
- Citizen-Generated Data
- Institutional Dynamics
- Governance
- Local Democracy

## ABOUT ME

I am a PhD Student and part of the "InfoCitizen" project. My research explores the transformative role of organizations and social movements in Brazil's data landscape. Specifically, I investigate how various actors within these organizations adopt data practices, routines, and narratives, catalyzing transformations in notions of social impact and citizenship. I am particularly interested in understanding the social and political relations that influence datafication regimes within institutions, including accountability practices, and how data is perceived as a valuable resource to transform realities both within and outside the institutional frame.