

## Edward Asiedu, PhD

Current Address (postal): P. O. Box LG 78, University of Ghana Business School (UGBS) and Chair of Development Economics, University of Passau, Germany

[edasiedu@ug.edu.gh/easiedu1@gmail.com](mailto:edasiedu@ug.edu.gh/easiedu1@gmail.com)

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**Invited Researcher**, The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (Since 2021) (Since 2021)

**Affiliate Faculty**, Center for Migration Studies (CMS), the University of Ghana (Since 2018)

**Senior Lecturer**, Department of Finance (Development Finance Group), University of Ghana Business School (UGBS) (since 2016)

**Major fields of Interest**                      Development Economics, Impact Evaluation of Development Interventions, Migration and Development, and Public Sector Economics

**Education**                                      Ph.D. (*Dr. rer. pol.*), *Development Economics*, University of Göttingen, Germany  
April 2011- Sept 2014

**Thesis Title: Three Essays in Empirical and Experimental Development Economics: Pro-social Behavior, Monitoring of Development-Linked Public Goods and Inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa**

Visiting PhD student, “Evaluating Antipoverty Policies in Developing countries” Norwegian School of Economics, NHH, Bergen                                      2014

M. A., Economics, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada                                      2010

B.Sc., University of Ghana, Legon– Ghana (*First class Honours*)                                      2005

### Post-doctoral Fellowship and Other Trainings

Postdoctoral Teaching and Research Fellow, Chair of Development Economics, University of Passau Germany (September 2014- October 2016)

Visiting PhD student, “Evaluating Antipoverty Policies in Developing countries” Norwegian School of Economics, NHH, Bergen (April 2014)

Certificate, Public Investment Evaluation and Appraisals, Queens University Ontario Canada (June 2019)

## Current Research Grant

- i. **Principal Investigator, “Nudging Small and Medium Scale Enterprises to Adopt Digital Technologies in Africa: Evidence from an Experiment in Ghana”** Funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), May 2022 – April 2025) (**CAD 400,000**).
- ii. **Co-Principal Investigator, “A randomized controlled trial to test financial incentives for COVID-19 vaccination in Ghana”** Funded by the University of Oxford, with Raymond Duch and Philip Clarke at the Centre for Experimental Social Sciences (CESS) at Nuffield College and Health Economics Research Group (HERC) University of Oxford, UK. (49,000\$, 12,000£)
- iii. **Principal Investigator, “Improving Resilience in Developing Countries: Digital Health Provision through Telemedicine Ecosystem against Pandemic, Epidemics and Natural disasters in Sub-Saharan Africa”**, Funded by the United Nations – International Telecommunication Union (ITU), with David Botchie (University of Brunel, UK), Weifeng Chen (University of Brunel, UK), and Shang Gao (Örebro University Sweden) (January 2022-July, 2022) (**\$42,000**)
- iv. **Co-Principal Investigator, “Nudging Adoption of Multiple Climate Smart Agricultural Practices Among Smallholder Farmers in Liberia: a Randomized Evaluation of Video-Based and Simplified Training”** Project with Monica Lambon-Quayefio Department of Economics University of Ghana, Boston United States. Funded by King Climate Action Initiative (K-CAI) at J-PAL, March 2022 – February 2022) (£75,000)
- v. **Co-Principal Investigator, Supporting Poor Slum Households: Experimental Evidence on the Effects of Shared Metering on Energy Conservation in Slum in Ghana”** Funded by the Environment for Development (EfD), with Amin Karimu (UGBS), Justice Tei Mensah (IFC-World Bank Group) and Daniel Kwabena Twerefou (Department of Economics, University of Ghana) (January 2021- December 2022) (**857,830 SEK/\$98,012**)
- vi. **Principal Investigator, “Professional Networks and Female Entrepreneurship”** Funded by Department for International Development (DFID), through the Private Enterprise Development in Low-Income Countries (PEDL) and the Center for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), with Monica Lambon-Quayefio (Department of Economics, University of Ghana), Ashley Wong and Francesca Truffa (Northwestern University, Boston United States). September 2020 – August 2021(**£39,485**)

- vii. **Co-Principal Investigator, “Improving Ghana’s National Health Insurance Biometric Card Renewals: A Randomised Control Trial Using Reminders and Moving Renewal Dates to January”** Funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, through the Digital Identification and Finance Initiative (DigiFI Africa) Abdul Latif Jameel Action Lab (JPAL), with Aaron Abuosi, Anita Baku and Eric Effah all of the University of Ghana Business School (UGBS). January 2021 – December 2022 (**\$60, 611**)
- viii. **Co-Principal Investigator, “Leveraging National Identification and Digital Payment Systems to Nudge Informal Pension Contributions in Ghana”** Funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, through the Digital Identification and Finance Initiative (DigiFI Africa) Abdul Latif Jameel Action Lab (JPAL), with Monica Lambon-Quayefio and Nkechi Owoo Department of Economics, University of Ghana. October 2020 – September 2021 (**\$74, 934**)
- ix. **Co-Principal Investigator, “University Students in the Time of Corona (COVID-19)”** Funded by Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) with Mariam Zaami (Department of Geography, University of Ghana) and Aaron Asibi Abuosi (University of Ghana Business School) June 2020 – May 2021 (**\$10,000**)
- x. **Co-Principal Investigator, “Provision Systems and Financing Mechanisms in the Public Health Sector”** Funded by Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development (r4d programme), with Joint Isabel Guenther and Kathrin Durizzo of ETH Zurich, Switzerland. February 2020 – January 2021 (**CHF 243,962.25, approx. 226,396.97 EUR**)
- xi. **Researcher, “UKRI’s GCRF South-South Migration, Inequality, and Development Hub, focusing on Resource Flows and Trade between Ghana and China.** Funded by the UK Government. 2019 – 2024 with Prof. Joseph Teye of Center for Migration Studies as Ghana lead and Heaven Crawley of the University of Coventry at global lead (**£20 Million**)
- xii. **Travel Grant, African Oxford (AfOx) travel grant,** University of Oxford, UK, The African Oxford Initiative, February 2019 (**£ 2,069**)
- xiii. **Co-Principal Investigator, “Marketing, Tractor Coordination, and Technology Adoption”** Project with Christopher Udry and Dean Karlan both of the Northwestern University, Boston United States. Funded by CEGA’s Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (ATIA), March 2019 – February 2020
- xiv. **University of Ghana Business School Research Grants** (2018, 2020)
- xv. **German Research Foundation (DFG) Research Grant** (2011-2014)

## **National and International Consultancy Positions**

- i. **Independent Verification Consultant (Qualitative and Quantitative), World Bank (WB).** Public Sector Reform for Results Project (PSRRP) Ghana. Baseline and endline verification for public institutions such as Birth and Death Registry (BDR), Passport Office and Driver's License. Responsible design of verifications instruments, data collection and analysis. (August 2022- December 2022)
- ii. **Evaluation Consultant, International Organization for Migration (IOM).** A security perception/ vulnerability assessment in eight (8) selected border communities in Northern Ghana. Responsible for evaluation instrument design, stakeholder engagement, and report writing (January 2022- October 2022)
- iii. **Baseline Survey Consultant, World Bank.** World Bank – Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) Project on Measuring Technology Adoption and Entrepreneurship in the middle of a pandemic in Ghana. Responsible for liaising with the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) to design the baseline survey, supervise survey implementation, and monitoring of survey outputs. Also responsible for analysing the data, writing both country baseline and evaluation reports. (February 2021 – May 2021)
- iv. **COVID-19 Business Research Consultant,** Ghana Employers' Association (GEA). Employer's Policy Proposals into Ghana's government COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategies (November 2020)
- v. **Training Consultant,** Public Investment Appraisals, for public sector workers in Ghana, organized by the Queen's University Canada, University of Ghana Business School (UGBS) and Ghana's Ministry of Finance (MoF), funded by the World Bank (June 2019, September 2020)
- vi. **Training Consultants,** African Union (AU), project on "Support to the African Union on Migration and Displacement". Training of representatives from Central and Southern African countries on remittance and migration data collection, analysis, and quantifying the nexus between migration and development, Ethiopia March 2020 (March 2020).
- vii. **Baseline Study and Evaluation Consultant,** International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), project on

- Resilience Against Climate Change-Social Transformation Research and Policy Advocacy (REACH-STR), funded by the European Union (EU). Lead for Designing baseline questionnaire, training enumerators, data collection and analysis, and preparation of reports. (October 2019 to December 2020).
- viii. **Researcher, migrating out of Poverty (MOOP) project** in-charge of analyzing and evaluating endline data on the counterfactual effect of migration and remittances in Ghana. Implemented together with the University of Sussex, funded by UKaid, (2018- 2019)
- ix. **Research Consultant**, The state of economic inequalities in West Africa, Oxfam-West Africa (2019). Analyzing trends in inequality and labour regulations across West African countries and writing the Oxfam inequality report.
- x. **Lead Trainer**, IOM (International Organization for Migration) project on “Migration and Remittance Data Collection and Management”. Training government officials and public sector workers from Ghana and Senegal (Foreign Affairs, Immigration Services, Statistical Service, National Development Planning Commission, etc.) on migration and remittance data collection, analysis, and management. (June 2018).
- xi. **Baseline Study Consultant**, Market-Oriented Agricultural Programme (MOAP) baseline survey in the Upper West Region of Ghana for thr Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). I was responsible for baseline questionnaire design for smallholder farmers, recruiting and training of enumerators, supervising data collection, cleaning data, writing country report and stakeholder presentations. February 2018 – April 2018. 2018.
- xii. **Evaluation Consultant**, Impact Evaluation of the Cocoa Farmer Business School (FBS) SSAB project, sponsored by the European Commission (EC) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). Responsible for the impact evaluation of the intervention i.e., design of the evaluation questionnaire, training of enumerators, monitoring field data collection, writing and presentation of the country report. The study evaluated the impact of Farmer Business School (FBS) on incomes and household poverty across three cocoa regions in Ghana, namely Ashanti, Eastern and Western regions. (October 2017 – January 2018).
- xiii. **Evaluation Consultant**, Evaluation of Ghana’s Financial Sector Development, funded by Ghana’s Ministry of Finance (MoF) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) (July 2017 – November 2017).

- xiv. **Evaluation Consultant**, FAO, Medium-Term Agricultural Sector Investment Programme (METASIP), METASIP I & II Evaluation. Responsible for liaising with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ghana Statistical Service, and examining how different projects under METASIP are tailored to achieve the key objectives of METASIP. Projects under evaluation included the Rural Enterprise Program (REP), Market-oriented agriculture program (MOAP), Sustainable West Africa Oil Palm Programme (SWAPP), and the Ghana Agricultural Sector Investment Programme (GASIP). April – June 2017.
- xv. **Consultant**, World Bank Tax Revenue Mobilization and District Financing project in Ghana with Tomomi Tanaka. Responsible for national and district tax revenue data collection (liaising with the Ghana Statistical Service), data analysis, examining tax incidence and the effect of district income tax policy changes on the poor households. Also involved in the writing of World Bank Policy briefs and involved in the discussion of the World Bank Ghana Strategic Country Diagnostic (SCD) (November 2016 to February 31, 2017).
- xvi. **Baseline study consultant**, Green Innovation Centres Initiative, sponsored by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). I was responsible for the baseline implementation (training of national consultant and enumerators), accessing both the financial and non-financial constraints facing various farmers across different regions, and writing country reports. GFA Consult in Bonn was also involved. (December 2015 – April 2016).
- xvii. **Experimental Evaluation consultant**, Ghana Irrigation Project - “Sisili-Kulpawn Irrigation Project” – together with the Erasmus University Rotterdam, funded by Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Policy and Evaluation Department (IOB) together with the University of Bayreuth, Germany (Elena Gross, co-consultant). (May 2015 – November 2015).
- xviii. **Baseline study and Evaluation Consultant**, for German Development Institute “Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik” (DIE) project on evaluating the impact of interventions aimed at improving the effectiveness of the decentralization programme in Togo. Responsible for the design of evaluation instruments, oversight over local survey firms, cartographers who mapped out five cities for the impact evaluation, and Statistics Togo staff, as well as writing project reports. (October 2014 – April 2015).

- xix. **Survey Consultant**, evaluating consumer food preferences in Ontario. Responsible for interviewing consumers in the largest mall in Ontario, funded by the University of Guelph (November 2008 – December 2008).

### **Professional Society Memberships**

- i. Canadian Economics Association
- ii. Economic Science Association
- iii. African Evidence Network
- iv. Evidence-Based Policy in Development Network

### **Professional activities**

- i. Grant reviewer, for by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), IDRC grant 202-2033 grant cycle.
- ii. Trainer, Evaluating Social Programs in Africa, organized for J-PAL, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), engagements with policy actors from Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Niger and Liberia, at the African School of Economics, Abuja, 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- iii. Trainer, Designing and Running Randomized Development Evaluations (Impact Evaluation) for public sector policy actors in Ghana, organized by London School of Economics and International Growth Centre (IGC) ISSER Building March 14-15, 2022.
- iv. Course Facilitator- J-PAL's Conducting Experimental Research Course for African scholars. August 17- 24<sup>th</sup> 2021.
- v. Speaker, Jobs and Opportunity Initiative African Scholars Program, Grant program Event, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

### **Invitation to National and International Conferences and Workshops**

- i. 2022 Presenter, University of Passau Germany PICAIS Workshop on Digitalization of Africa – Can digitalization address development bottlenecks? 6th July 2022, Passau, Germany.
- ii. 2022: Presenter, 2022 10th Africa Evidence Summit, Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA), University of California Berkeley, in Kigali, Rwanda on June 29-30, 2022.
- iii. 2022: Presenter, ETH Zurich University workshop on ‘Development Engineering’ ‘The role of (modern) technologies in poverty alleviation in developing countries, , Zurich 2nd May 2022.

- iv. 2022: Presenter, International Growth Centre (IGC) and Ministry of Finance Brown Bag Seminar, co-organised by the International Growth Centre, April 6th 2022. ‘Business Collaborations and Female Entrepreneurship’
- v. 2020: DigiFI African Scholars Virtual Workshop, organized by IPA and Abdul Latif Jameel Action Lab (JPAL), October 26 – October 27, 2020 (Presenter)
- vi. 2020: 2<sup>nd</sup> African Union Member States and REC’s Training Workshop on Remittances and Migration Governance, Bahir Dar Ethiopia (March 7 – March 15, 2020) (Trainer)
- vii. 2019: U.S National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Conference on Transforming Rural Africa, Cambridge, MA United States: February 28 - March 1, 2019. (Presenter)
- viii. 2019: Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) Development Economics Conference 2019, University of Oxford, 17th-19th March 2019. (Presenter and Session Chair)
- ix. 2018: Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) Development Economics Conference 2018, University of Oxford, 18th-20th March 2018. (Presenter)
- x. 2017: Poverty Reduction Equity and Growth Network (PEGNET) Development Conference, ETH Zurich Switzerland September 11 and 12, 2017. (Presenter)
- xi. 2017: Canadian Economics Association (CEA) 2017 Annual Conference, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada June 4, 2017. (Presenter and Session Chair)
- xii. 2015: 12th Midwest International Economic Development Conference, University of Wisconsin Madison (April 24 -25, 2015). (Presenter)
- xiii. 2014: Workshop on Evaluating Antipoverty Policies in Developing countries, Norwegian School of Economics, NHH, Bergen
- xiv. 2013: Symposium on Economic Experiments in Developing Countries, organized by the Center for Global Action (CEGA) at UC Berkeley, and the Choice Lab at NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen Norway (December 5-6, 2013). (Presenter)
- xv. 2013: North America Economic Science Association (ESA) Conference, University of California, Santa Cruz, California, U.S (October 2013).
- xvi. 2008: World Bank – African Development Bank conference 2008, Tunis.

## Publications

### *Book Chapter (s):*

- Asiedu, E., & Baku, A. (2021). Social Protection in Ghana – Equity driven reforms, financing, and sustainability, In *Transitioning to No Poverty (SDG1)*, Isabel Günther and Rahul Lahoti (Eds.) 2021. *Transitioning to Sustainability*. VMdpi
- Issahaku, H., Asiedu, E., Nkegbe, P. K., & Osei, R. (2020). Financing agriculture for inclusive development. In Abor, J. Y., Adjasi, C. K. D., and Lensink, R. (eds.), *Contemporary Issues in Development Finance*, 287, Abor, J. Y., Adjasi, C. K. D., & Lensink, R. (Eds.). (2020). *Contemporary Issues in Development Finance*. Routledge.
- Asiedu, E. (2021). The COVID-19 Pandemic and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): Exploring Potential Impacts and Developmental Implications, forthcoming IntechOpen.

### *Articles in peer-reviewed journals:*

- Asiedu, E., Amin Karimu and Abdul Ganiyu Iddrisu (2022). Structural Changes in African Households: Female-headed households and Children's Educational Investments in an Imperfect Credit Market in Africa, *forthcoming Structural Change and Economic Dynamics* (SCED)
- Duch, R., Asiedu, E., Nakamura, R., Rouyard, T., Yevenes, C., Roope, L., ... & Clarke, P. (2022). A randomized controlled trial to test financial incentives for COVID-19 vaccination in Ghana. *Nature Medicine*, 1-2.
- Durizzo, K., Asiedu, E., van der Merwe, A. and Günther, I. (2022), Economic Recovery but Stagnating Mental Health During a Global Pandemic? Evidence from Ghana and South Africa. *Review of Income and Wealth*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/roiw.12587>
- Bening, C. R., Kahlert, S., & Asiedu, E. (2022). The true cost of solving the plastic waste challenge in developing countries: The case of Ghana. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 330, 129649.
- Vukey, E. Y., Egyir, I. S., Asiedu, E., & Kwapong, N. A. (2021). Increasing rice productivity in Ghana: Do savings with rural and community banks matter?. *Agricultural Finance Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1108/AFR-12-2020-0179>
- Asiedu, E., Karlan, D., Lambon-Quayefio, M. P., & Udry, C. R. (2021). A call for structured ethics appendices in social science papers. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118(29), e2024570118.

- Olowogbon, T. S., Babatunde, R. O., Asiedu, E., & Yoder, A. M. (2021). Prevalence and Exposure to Ergonomic Risk Factors among Crop Farmers in Nigeria. *Applied Sciences*, *11*(24), 11989.
- Asiedu, E., Sadekla, S. S., & Bokpin, G. A. (2020). Aid to Africa's agriculture towards building physical capital: Empirical evidence and implications for post-COVID-19 food insecurity. *World Development Perspectives*, *20*, 100269. (Elsevier)  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wdp.2020.100269>
- Durizzo, K., Asiedu, E., Van der Merwe, A., Van Niekerk, A., & Günther, I. (2020). Managing the COVID-19 pandemic in poor urban neighborhoods: The case of Accra and Johannesburg. *World Development*, *137*, 105175. (Elsevier)  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2020.105175>
- Asiedu, E., & Chimbar, N. (2020). Impact of remittances on male and female labor force participation patterns in Africa: Quasi-experimental evidence from Ghana. *Review of Development Economics*, *24*, 1009– 1026. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.12668> (Wiley)
- Asiedu, E. (2020). Household services, social norms and bribe involvements? Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa. *International Journal of Development Issues*, *19* No. 2, 229-253. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJDI-11-2019-0195> (Emerald)
- Olowogbon, T. S., Babatunde, R. O., Asiedu, E., & Yoder, A. M. (2020). Agrochemical Health Risks Exposure and Its Determinants: Empirical Evidence among Cassava Farmers in Nigeria. *Journal of Agromedicine*, 1-12. DOI: [10.1080/1059924X.2020.1816239](https://doi.org/10.1080/1059924X.2020.1816239) (Taylor and Francis)
- Breuer, A., & Asiedu, E. (2017). Can gender-targeted employment interventions help enhance community participation? Evidence from urban Togo. *World Development*, *96*, 390-407. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2017.03.022> (Elsevier)
- Augustine, O., & Asiedu, E. (2017). Monetary versus fiscal policy effects on SMEs growth in Africa: Evidence from Ghana. *International Research Journal of Finance and Economics*, *164*(1), 7-24.
- Asiedu, E., & Stengos, T. (2014). An empirical estimation of the underground economy in Ghana. *Economics Research International*, pp.1-14.  
<https://doi.org/10.1155/2014/891237>

### ***NBER published conference proceedings:***

Olowogbon, T. S., Babatunde, R. O., & Asiedu, E. (2019). How Can Inclusive Agricultural Health Policy Intervention Promote Shared Agricultural Productivity in Nigeria? Evidence from Randomized Control Trial (No. w26043). U.S. National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) conference on Transforming Rural Africa, Cambridge, MA United States: DOI 10.3386/w26043

### ***Peer Reviewed Working Papers:***

Teye, J. K., Boakye-Yiadom, L., Asiedu, E., Awumbila, M., Kubi, A., & Wilson, J. (2019). Changing Patterns of Migration and Remittances: A Case Study of Rural Ghana. University of Sussex, Working Paper 58, <https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/handle/20.500.12413/14874>

Teye, J. K., Boakye-Yiadom, L., Asiedu, E., Litchfield, J., Kubi, A., Wilson, J., & Awumbila, M. (2019). The impact of migration on the welfare of households left behind in rural Ghana: A quasi-experimental impact evaluation. University of Sussex, Working Paper 62, <https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/handle/20.500.12413/14878>

### ***World Bank Technical Reports***

Asiedu, E., Bi, C., Pavelesku, D., Sato, R., & Tanaka, T. (2017). Income tax collection and non-compliance in Ghana. Washington, DC, World Bank, in *Mobilizing resources for the Poor*, 279.

Asiedu, E., Bi, C., Pavelesku, D., Sato, R., & Tanaka, T. (2017). The impacts of external funding for district governments on tax collection and public goods provision in Ghana. Washington, DC, World Bank.

### ***Policy Briefs***

Asiedu, Edward; Durizzo, Kathrin; Günther, Isabel. “Covid Fatigue” of the urban poor in Ghana? (PDF, 732 KB). Policy Brief NADEL ETHZ, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.3929/ethz-b-000472430>

Awoonor-Williams, Koku; Asiedu, Edward; Durizzo, Kathrin; Günther, Isabel; Sebhatu, Dawit “Demand for COVID-19 vaccines in poor urban settlements in Ghana” Report <https://doi.org/10.3929/ethz-b-000499493>

### **Reviewer activities**

Education Economics

Journal of Economics Behavior and Organization

World Development  
World Development Perspective  
Research in International Business and Finance  
PLOS One  
Journal of Economic Studies  
Science progress  
Food ethics

**Computing Skills**

STATA (Main) SPSS, Eviews, Microsoft Office

**Languages**

English (Native Speaker), Twi and German (Intermediate)