

ZILPER AUDI-POQUILLON

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PROFILE SUMMARY

- Health Policy Specialist, with experience in Health financing, Public Finance Management, Research Uptake, Communications and Advocacy, built during 12 years of professional experience in economic research think tanks, the private sector, international organizations, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and a global health organization.
- Specific interests in health systems strengthening, health economics and health financing, social accountability, and universal health coverage.
- Excellent leader, passionate about evidence-based policymaking, and health systems transformation in Africa.
- Strong experience providing health financing technical assistance to ministries of health, government agencies and the health private sector in countries like: Uganda, Botswana, and Namibia

EDUCATION

- **PhD – Health Policy and Health Economics** – London School of Economics (LSE) Exp. 2026
- **MSc Global Health Policy** (Distance Programme)- University of Edinburgh, UK 2021
- **MA in Public Policy** (Distinction) – King’s College London -UK 2017
- **PG Dip. Strategic PR** – Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR– UK) 2013
- **BA Communications** – Maseno University – Kenya 2011
- **Certificate in Health Financing for UHC** – WHO 2018
- **Certificate in Research Communication** – CIPPEC Argentina & Global Development Network (GDNet) 2013

CORE TECHNICAL SKILLS & COMPETENCE

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| ➤ Health financing technical assistance | ➤ Partnership building at both national, regional and international levels |
| ➤ Policy research and analysis | ➤ Project management |
| ➤ Health systems analysis | ➤ Languages (fluent): English; French; Swahili |
| ➤ Capacity building | ➤ Monitoring and evaluation |
| ➤ Drafting technical reports and non-technical pieces | ➤ Resource mobilization |
| ➤ Policy Advocacy and Stakeholder engagement | ➤ Teamwork |
| ➤ Research Uptake | |

WORK EXPERIENCE

Health Systems/Health Financing Consultant Apr -Dec 2021

Population Services International (PSI)

Working in PSI's Health Systems Accelerator (HSA) department

- Conducting health systems and health financing research
- Health financing analysis – including creating briefs, playbooks, theories of change.
- Working closely with all health area leads – HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria, SRH, WASH to align ongoing health systems work in the various areas to the PSI global strategy.
- Supporting the alignment of PSI Global Strategy to country strategies
- Supporting PSI countries to align public funding to private providers.
- Supporting the development of a health system strengthening strategy

Programme Associate – Africa

Apr 2019 – Nov 2020

Duke Global Health Initiative

Nairobi, Kenya

Worked on a 5-year USAID-funded project, providing technical support to 6 African countries on health financing for universal health coverage (UHC)

- **Led** research assessing the readiness of Botswana to domestically conduct health expenditure tracking.
- **Researched** on opportunities for Botswana to transition towards pooled procurement of medicines and essential medical commodities.

- **Part of the research team that researched** on the potential for cost-savings for the Namibia's Public Service Medical Aid Schemes insurance (PSEMAS)
- **Part of the team that provided technical support and review** to Uganda's MoH as they drafted a UHC Roadmap
- **Co-author** a paper on accountability for health financing for UHC
- **Engaged** with key country stakeholders and Ministries of Health in the project implementation countries – Uganda, Botswana, Namibia, Benin, Togo and Burkina Faso
- **Tracked** COVID-19 -related interventions including vaccines, drugs and devices in order to develop actionable recommendations to address barriers to launch and scale
- **Co-authored** a research article making a case for locally-led solutions and processes for UHC (published by BMJ Global Health)
- **Lead researcher and writer** of a White Paper on the Role of Healthcare innovations in advancing UHC in Africa
- **Wrote** the popular version of the Uganda UHC Roadmap
- **Conducted** scoping and needs assessment for USAID country-buy in Ethiopia and Malawi

Knowledge Management Consultant
African Development Bank Group (AfDB)
Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) Department

Jan 2019 - Mar 2019
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

- Prepared briefs, research summaries and blog posts on ongoing or complete evaluations
- Contributed to policy-relevant research to improve development impact and alignment with country strategy and priority areas
- Worked with evaluators and task managers to identify important key messages for each ongoing evaluation.
- Supported the organization and stakeholder engagement during the 2019 Annual AfREA Conference
- Provided communications support to the department.
- Assisted with knowledge management and learning function at IDEV

Independent Policy Consultant

Jan 2018 - Dec 2018

- Evaluated and documented success stories for Tanzania's CRDB Microfinance for DANIDA
- Supported Airbnb policy and stakeholder engagement in Kenya
- Conducted research on gender and taxation section for the Oxfam Gender Responsive Budgeting project
- Assessed equity and equality in allocation of resources in Kwale County, with emphasis on the Bursary Policy, for the Institute of Public Finance Kenya (IPFK).

Research Uptake and Communications Manager
International Centre for Tax and Development (ICTD)

Aug 2014 - Jun 2016
Brighton, United Kingdom

- **Led** the overall designing and implementation of a research uptake and policy advocacy strategy.
- **Analyzed** and synthesized technical research, to deliver policy-relevant messages for policymakers and non-technical policy audiences
- **Published** several commentaries and Op-Eds on several issues, ranging from governance to human rights to public finance management, which were published in national, regional and international media
- **Built** partnerships with key stakeholders within the civil society, parliament, policy makers, media as well as with local and international institutions
- **Oversaw** evidence-based and policy-focused policy engagements with stakeholders in African revenue authorities, as well as civil society organisations
- **Drafted** communications materials like newsletters, briefings, brochures, and wrote articles for the website, as well as for national and international media, and supported the drafting of policy briefings
- **Conducted** M&E including annual stakeholder surveys, monitoring the impact of the ICTD's research, and writing impact stories
- Responsible for knowledge management, and for coordinating production and dissemination of all research reports, working papers and other policy papers
- Successfully negotiated a free partnership with Africa Portal – a repository of all research focusing on Africa – which greatly widened the reach of the Centre's research

PR & Communications Officer
Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA-Kenya)

Feb 2012 - Jul 2014
Nairobi, Kenya

- Provided overall leadership of the policy engagement, and communications programme, including developing and implementing a policy research and communications strategy
- Citizen Budget tracking, and organizing budget advocacy meetings
- Collaborated with research teams to develop policy briefs and translate advocacy results into concrete policy briefs/reports and share across the organisation
- Coordinated meetings including annual meetings, workshops, policy dialogues, and brown-bag lunch meetings
- Led in-house capacity building for policy engagement and communications to staff and network organisations
- Provided PR support, media relations, including drafting media articles and news releases, and web and social media management
- Managed a team of 2 assistants and consultants
- Coordinated the writing, editing and publishing of annual reports as well as Quarterly Newsletter

Advocacy and Communications Assistant
Kituo Cha Sheria - Legal Advice Centre

May 2010 - Feb 2012
Nairobi, Kenya

- Founded the communications department, while still in 3rd year at University.
- Wrote articles that were published in national newspapers
- Successfully negotiated for a free radio show partnership slot with Pamoja FM

MERITS AND AWARDS

- 2022-2016 ESRC Doctoral Scholarship for my PhD in Health Policy & Health Economics at the LSE
- 2018 University of Edinburgh Scholarship for a 3-year MSc Programme in Global Health Policy
- 2016 British Chevening Scholarship (funded by Foreign and Commonwealth Office, FCO) for Master of Arts (MA) in Public Policy at King's College London, United Kingdom.
- 2016 Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) Fellowship

SELECTED PUBLISHED

- Zilper Audi-Poquillon (2023) – [Breaking Barriers To Universal Health Reforms: The Call For Bold Political Leadership](#). *LSE Global Health initiative*
- Kiendrébéogo, J. (2021). Reinforcing locally led solutions for universal health coverage: a logic model with applications in Benin, Namibia and Uganda. *BMJ Global Health*, [online] 6(2). Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7898844/>
- Audi, Z. et al., 2020, "Innovations Advance Universal Health Coverage in Africa", *Duke Global Health Innovation Centre, USAID, Results for Development (R4D)*
- Audi, Z. et al., 2020, "Botswana Pooled Procurement: Learning from Global, Regional and Country Experiences", *Duke Global Health Innovation Centre (for Botswana Ministry of Health and Wellness)*
- Audi, Z., McAndrew, E., and Shahid, M., 2020, "Report on the Readiness of Local Training Institutions to Provide Expenditure Tracking Training in Botswana", *Duke Global Health Innovation Centre*
- Audi, Z. et al., 2019, "Determining feasibility and potential cost savings of giving Namibia PSEMAS beneficiaries access to HIV medicines and supplies procured centrally by the MoHSS: Case studies from Zambia, South Africa, and Kenya", *Duke Global Health Innovation Centre*
- Audi, Z., and Fjeldstad, O. H., 2015, "Improved knowledge on tax issues builds interest, increases compliance", Commentary article in *The East African* (Nairobi)
- Audi, Z., 2014, "Why Good Tax Data Matters in Africa?" Blog post on International Centre for Tax and Development (ICTD) website