

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, ST EDMUND HALL

DPhil, International Development (Supervisor: Prof. Pramila Krishnan)

2019 - present

*Fields: Development economics, labour economics, economic demography***UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, ST ANNE'S COLLEGE**

MPhil, Development Studies (Supervisor: Prof. Pramila Krishnan)

2016 - 2018

awarded with distinction (with courses taken from the MSc in Economics for Development)**UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN**

B.A. (Honours) Economic History

2015

awarded in the first class

BSocSci Philosophy and Religious Studies

2012 - 2014

awarded in the first class

(one semester at the University of California, Berkeley)

PUBLICATIONS

Schotte, S., **Zizzamia, R.** & Leibbrandt, M. (2018). A poverty dynamics approach to social stratification: The South African case. *World Development*. 110. p. 88-103. [\[link\]](#)

Leibbrandt, M., Schotte, S., & **Zizzamia, R.** (2019). "Tackling persistent poverty and inequality: A dynamic perspective." In *Confronting Inequality: The South African Crisis*, edited by M.S. Smith. Jacana Media. [\[link\]](#)

WORKING PAPERS

Clementi, F., Fabiani, M., Molini, V. & **Zizzamia, R.** 2019. *Worlds Apart: What polarization measures reveal about Sub-Saharan Africa's growth and welfare distribution in the last two decades.* (ARUA Centre of Excellence for Inequality Research (ACEIR) Working Paper, No. 1) [\[Link\]](#) **[Under review]**

Zizzamia, R., Schotte, S., & Leibbrandt, M. 2019. *Snakes and Ladders and Loaded Dice: Poverty Dynamics and Inequality in South Africa, 2008 to 2017* (UNU-WIDER Working Paper 2019/25) [\[link\]](#)

Zizzamia, R., & Ranchhod, V. 2019. *Labour Market Dynamics in South Africa, 2008 to 2017* (SALDRU Working Paper No. 246/NIDS Discussion Paper 2019/13) [\[link\]](#)

Stoop, N., Leibbrandt, M. & **Zizzamia, R.** 2019. *Exploring psychological well-being and poverty dynamics in South Africa: Evidence from NIDS waves 1 to 5.* (SALDRU Working Paper No. 240/NIDS Discussion Paper 2019/7) [\[link\]](#)

Zizzamia, R. 2018. *Is employment a panacea for poverty in South Africa: A mixed-methods investigation* (SALDRU Working Paper 229). Cape Town: SALDRU, University of Cape Town. [\[link\]](#) **[Revise and resubmit, World Development]**

Schotte, S., **Zizzamia, R.** & Leibbrandt, M. 2017. *Assessing the Extent and Nature of Chronic Poverty, Poverty Dynamics, and Vulnerability to Poverty in South Africa* (World Bank Technical Background Paper, [South African Poverty and Inequality Assessment Report 2018](#)).

Zizzamia, R., Schotte, S., Leibbrandt, M., & Ranchhod, V. 2016. *Vulnerability and the Middle Class in South Africa* (SALDRU Working Paper 188/ NIDS Discussion Paper 2015/16). Cape Town: SALDRU, University of Cape Town. [\[link\]](#) **[Revise and resubmit, Journal of African Economies]**

ONGOING RESEARCH

Herath, N, Krishnan, P, Piraino, P & **Zizzamia, R.**, *Boosting decent employment for Africa's youth: An experimental evaluation of the Youth Employment Service in South Africa* (SALDRU, University of Oxford, J-Pal Africa)

Zizzamia, R., & Ranchhod, V. *Labour market dynamics and inequality in South Africa* (SALDRU)

Zizzamia, R., Leibbrandt, M. & Lam, D. *The role of demographic and income events in poverty dynamics: Evidence from South African panel data.* (SALDRU and University of Michigan)

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit
Research Officer (African Centre for Excellence in Inequality Research)

2016-present

<i>Principle Investigator (Boosting decent employment for Africa's youth: An experimental evaluation of the Youth Employment Service in South Africa)</i>	
GIGA German Institute for Global and Area Studies, Hamburg	2018
<i>Visiting fellow</i>	
WORLD BANK GROUP, Poverty Global Practice Unit, Africa Region	2016, 2017, 2018
<i>Short Term Consultant</i>	

RESEARCH GRANTS

International Development Research Centre: "Boosting decent employment for Africa's youth" (CAD\$500,000)	2019
J-Pal Post-Primary Education Initiative: "Working to learn: an evaluation of an on-the-job training program" (\$25,000)	
German Institute for Global and Area Studies: "Poverty dynamics in South Africa: A mixed methods investigation" (£5,000)	2017

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Clarendon Scholarship (DPhil in International Development) <i>Clarendon Trust, University of Oxford</i>	2019-2021
St Edmund Hall Clarendon partner Scholarship (DPhil in International Development) <i>St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford</i>	
Papiya Ghosh Thesis Prize (best thesis, MPhil Development Studies) <i>Oxford Department of International Development</i>	2018
Skye Foundation Scholarship <i>Skye Foundation</i>	2016
Michael Wills Scholarship <i>University of Oxford and Dulverton Trust</i>	2016
Various scholarships and awards during bachelor at UCT	2012-2015

PRESENTATIONS

IDRC/ILO/INCLUDE Workshop, Nairobi; UNU-WIDER Conference, Bangkok; IUSSP Conference, University of Michigan; UAPS Conference, Kampala; ODID PhD Seminar, Oxford.	2019, incl. scheduled
CSAE Conference, University of Oxford; SALDRU Seminar, University of Cape Town; RESEP Seminar, University of Stellenbosch; African Studies Centre, University of Oxford; INET-YSI Africa Convening, Harare; HDCA Conference, Universidad Católica Argentina; AFD Conference, Paris; GIGA Seminar, Hamburg	2018
Fifth Congress of African Economists, Malabo; HDCA Conference, University of Cape Town; CSAE Conference, University of Oxford; African Studies Centre, University of Oxford	2017
DSA Conference, University of Oxford; SALDRU Seminar, University of Cape Town; International Workshop on the Middle Class in Africa, Cape Town	2016

MEDIA

My research has featured or been referred to in the Economist, the Guardian, Die Weld and in the South African Business Day, Mail and Guardian, Business Insider, University of Cape Town news, and Independent Online. Op-eds I have written include:

<i>Socio-economic class in South Africa: playing snakes and ladders with loaded dice</i> Econ3x3 [link]	8 August 2019
<i>Stable middle-class in SA may be smaller than thought</i> Business Day [link]	2 October 2017
<i>Defining the Middle Class in the Global South: A quantitative perspective from South Africa</i> Institut francais des relations internationales [link]	13 June 2017
<i>What to take into account when measuring poverty?</i> Oxford Centre for the Study of African Economies blog [link]	23 March 2017

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: English (native), Italian (advanced), Afrikaans (basic proficiency)
Programming: STATA (advanced proficiency), LaTeX (advanced proficiency)

References available upon request

Last updated: November 2019