

Research Associate

United Nations University

World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Poverty, inequality, social mobility, labour markets, informality, structural transformation

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Göttingen, GER 2018

Thesis: “Poverty, Inequality, and the Middle Class: The case of South Africa”

Incl. **research stays** at Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU/UCT) and Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR)

M.A. in International Economics, University of Göttingen, GER 2014

Specialisation in Development Economics

Thesis: “The Middle Class in Economic Development: A Case Study of Brazil’s ‘New Middle Class’”

Incl. **exchange semester** at University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), BRA

B.Sc. in International Economics and European Studies, University of Tübingen, GER 2011

Specialisation in Applied Economic Theory, International Trade and Finance, Political Sciences

Thesis: “The Vicious Circle of Poverty: Do countries remain poor because they are poor?”

Incl. **exchange semester** at University of Guadalajara (UdG), MEX

WORK EXPERIENCE

UNU-WIDER, Helsinki, Finland 02/2019 – present

Research Associate

GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Hamburg, GER 10/2014 – 01/2019

Research Fellow / PhD Candidate

The World Bank, Poverty Global Practice Unit, Africa Region (remotely) 12/2016 – 06/2017

Consultant

10/2014 – 09/2015

The World Bank, Office of the Chief Economist, ECA, Washington, DC, USA 02/2014 – 09/2014

Consultant

University of Göttingen, Chair of Development Economics, Göttingen, GER 05/2013 – 02/2014

Research Assistant

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), Rio de Janeiro, BRA 02/2013 – 03/2013

Intern

Institute for Applied Cultural Research (IFAK), Göttingen, GER 03/2012 – 06/2012

Intern

German-Chilean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Santiago de Chile, CHL 05/2011 – 09/2011

Intern

Institute for Applied Economic Research, Tübingen, GER 11/2010 – 02/2011

Research Assistant

PUBLICATIONS & WORKING PAPERS

Journal Articles & Report Chapters (selected)

- Flachsbart, I., Schotte, S., Lay, J., & Garrido, A. (2018). Rural structural change, poverty and income distribution: evidence from Peru. *The Journal of Economic Inequality*, 16(4), 631-653.
- Schotte, S., Zizzamia, R., and M. Leibbrandt (2018). A poverty dynamics approach to social stratification: The South African case. *World Development*, 110, 88-103. Featured in [BusinessDay](#).
- Winkler, H., and S. Schotte (2018). Why Are the Elderly More Averse to Immigration When They Are More Likely to Benefit? Evidence Across Countries. *International Migration Review*, 1-33. Featured in [Brookings](#), [The World Bank](#), [World Economic Forum](#).
- De Mello, L., Schotte, S., Tiongson, E. R., and Winkler, H. (2017). Greying the Budget: Ageing and Preferences over Public Policies. *Kyklos*, 70(1), 70-96. Featured in [World Economic Forum](#).
- Bussolo, M., Schotte, S., and M. Matytsin (2017). Accounting for the bias against the life-cycle hypothesis in survey data: An example for Russia. *The Journal of the Economics of Ageing*, 9, 185-207.
- Bussolo, M., Nguyen, T. C., Munoz Boudet, A. M., Albertini, M., Azevedo, J. P., Bauer, J. M., Nie, P., Sousa-Poza, A., Evans, B., Majoka, Z., Nguyen, M., Schotte, S., Signorelli, S., Simler, K., and N. Sinha (2015). Aging and Poverty and Inequality. In: [Golden Aging: Prospects for Healthy, Active, and Prosperous Aging in Europe and Central Asia](#), Washington, DC: World Bank.

Working Papers (selected)

- Schotte, S. (2017). [The Anxious and the Climbers: Ambivalent Attitudes towards Democracy among South Africa's Middle Class](#). *GIGA Working Paper*, 304.
- Zizzamia, R., Schotte, S., Leibbrandt, M., and V. Ranchhod (2016). [Vulnerability and the middle class in South Africa](#). *SALDRU Working Paper*, 188; *NIDS Discussion Paper*, 2016/15.

Other Publications (selected)

- Schotte, S., Zizzamia, R., and M. Leibbrandt (2017). [Defining the Middle Class in the Global South: A Quantitative Perspective from South Africa](#). Ifri, *L'Afrique en questions*, 33.
- Giesbert, L., Pfeiffer, B., and S. Schotte (2016). [Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU: Trade-Offs for Africa](#). *GIGA Focus Africa*, 7. Featured in [Deutsche Welle](#), [BR Podcast](#), [Süddeutsche Zeitung](#).
- Giesbert, L., and S. Schotte (2016). [Africa's New Middle Class: Fact and Fiction of Its Transformative Power](#). *GIGA Focus Africa*, 1.

PRESENTATIONS (selected)

- Ifri-OCP Policy Center Roundtable: African Middle Classes Beyond the Buzz:** 01/2018
Economic, Social, and Political Dynamics Paris, FRA
Title: "The Anxious and the Climbers: Ambivalent Attitudes towards Democracy among South Africa's Middle Class" featured on [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#)
- PEGNet Conference 2017: Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth** 09/2017
Title: "Ex-ante evaluation of alternative labor market policies for alleviating poverty and inequality in South Africa" Zurich, CHE
- CSAE Conference 2017: Economic Development in Africa** 03/2017
Title: "Social class, life chances and vulnerability to poverty in South Africa" Oxford, GBR

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- PhD Scholarship** Evangelisches Studienwerk Villigst e.V. 05/2015 – 04/2018
- Best Graduate of the Faculty of Economics**, University of Göttingen winter term 2013/2014
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Scholarship 08/2009 – 12/2009