

Vikki Chambers

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Nationality: British

DOB: 08-03-1974

Qualifications

1997-1998 MA (Econ) Development Studies – Research training (ESRC awarded)
University of Manchester

1992-1995 BA Economics with Third World Studies (Upper second class)
University of East London

Languages

English Mother tongue

French Bi-lingual

Kinyarwanda Basic knowledge

Developing country experience: Extensive experience in Rwanda (12 months ethnographic fieldwork); case study experience in sub-Saharan Africa including Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger and Sierra Leone.

Areas of expertise: Ethnographic fieldwork methods, sectoral expertise (water and sanitation, health), political economy analysis.

Posts held:

2009 to present **Research Officer, Overseas Development Institute, London**

Researcher in the Politics and Governance team, with a particular interest in governance and neo-patrimonial political systems and local governance and service delivery.

2008-2009 **Programme Manager, Africa Power and Politics Programme, ODI, London**

Management of a 5 year DFID funded research programme consortium including development, facilitation and implementation of the communication and policy engagement strategy, and coordination and training of communication officers in Niger and Ghana.

2000-2004 **Network coordinator, European Network for Communication and Information Perspectives, France**

Coordination of a collaborative research network '*New approach to telecommunication policy in the Mediterranean region*', EC project (2.5M€) providing technical assistance and training to support transition policies in the 12 MEDA countries (Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey).

- 1999** **Network management assistant, Lehman Brothers, London**
Support in managing the firm's network of clearing agents in Europe, Africa and the Middle East: selection of clearing agents and review of bank performances.
- 1996-1997** **Donor relations officer, Action for Southern Africa (ACTSA)**
Administration, monitoring, reporting and review of review of campaign appeals. Review of membership schemes, processing systems and direct marketing procedures. Administration and management of database systems. Organisation and promotion of events (institutional, fundraising)

Recent and ongoing assignments (since joining ODI)

- Political economy** *The Political Economy of Regionalism in West Africa, for DFID (2011-2012)*
Co-author of a scoping study identifying entry points for a programme of research on key regional issues in West Africa. Fieldwork in francophone countries.
- Governance and service delivery** *Effective strategies for strengthening public goods and service provision in transitional contexts, for DFID (2012)*
Contributor to a research programme which aims to build a greater understanding of the incentives and institutional dynamics affecting the delivery of basic services and to provide guidance to programmes supporting these services on how to address political and governance constraints and opportunities.
- Common blockages and incentives problems in sector-level service delivery, for Budget Strengthening Initiative (BSI) (2012)*
Contributor to a review of existing evidence on the common blockages and incentive problems for effective service delivery to generate new insights for service delivery options and guidance.
- Local governance and leadership research stream, Africa, Power and Politics Programme (APPP) (2009 – 2012)*
Contributor to research programme examining how the interaction of formal and informal institutional governance arrangements determines the ability of local administrations to deal with the challenge of providing public goods. As a member of the Rwanda research team Vikki spent eleven months undertaking ethnographic research in two rural districts in Rwanda examining the provision of safe motherhood and water and sanitation. She was also a member of the Niger collective enquiry research team and participated in ethnographic research training for the local researchers in Malawi, Rwanda and Uganda. Lead author of a research report identifying the institutional factors which explain good provision of safe motherhood in rural Rwanda and the author of a policy brief on the same subject.

Selected publications and reports

- 2012** (with D. Booth) Delivering maternal health: Malawi, Niger, Rwanda and Uganda? London: ODI Briefing Paper (Forthcoming)
- Why were regional institutions unable to avert Mali's political crisis? *The Guardian Poverty Matter Blog*, 2 May 2012
- (with F. Golooba-Mutebi) *Is the bride too beautiful? Safe Motherhood in rural Rwanda*, London: Africa Power and Politics, Research report N°4
- Improving maternal health when resources are limited: Safe motherhood in rural Rwanda*. London: Africa Power and Politics, Policy Brief N°4
- 2010** (with F. Golooba-Mutebi) *Delivering public goods in Rwanda: Early findings from Nyamagabe district*, London: Africa Power and Politics Programme. Draft working paper.