

Rebecca Simson

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Nationality: Swedish

DOB: 4 March 1981

Qualifications

2007 M.Sc. Economic History, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
2004 B.A. History, Princeton University, USA

Languages

English Advanced
Swedish Mother tongue
Krio Basic

Developing country experience: Liberia, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Tanzania.

Areas of expertise: public financial management, budget support, aid coordination and growth/macroeconomic analysis.

Posts held:

01/2012 - present **Research Officer, Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure, ODI**

09/2011 – 01/2012 **Consultant, Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure, ODI**

- Prepared a guide to PFM literature for practitioners in developing countries and supported ODI's work on budget support and public expenditure policy.

01/2011 – 07/2011 **In-Country Economist, the International Growth Centre, Sierra Leone**

- Represented the IGC in Sierra Leone and supported and contributed to research on economic growth prospects, trade, private sector development and innovation systems.

09/2009 – 10/2010 **Consultant for the Joint Budget Support Framework, World Bank, Uganda**

- Coordinated the work of a budget support development partner taskforce comprising 12 donors. This included the development of a joint assessment framework, regular assessments of the Government's performance, and coordination of workshops and meetings.
- Contributed to the design and monitoring of the World Bank's budget support operations in Uganda (PRSC8 and 9).
- Established a trust fund to finance a technical and administrative support unit for the JBSF taskforce and managed the recruitment of unit staff.

09/2007 – Research Analyst, World Bank, Liberia

09/2009

- Coordinated and contributed to research on public financial management, growth, poverty and employment, including use of standard assessment tools such as the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework, Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA), and Post-Conflict Performance Indicators (PCPI).
- Supported projects on public financial management, public sector management, statistics capacity building and natural resource management.
- Participated on the steering committee for the Governance and Economic Management Assistance Program, a multi-donor and government initiative aimed to improve systems and increase controls over revenue and public expenditure.
- Focal point on PRSP M&E and aid management.

06/2004 – Grants Manager, the International Rescue Committee, Sierra Leone & Liberia

08/2006

- Managed IRC's grants portfolios with grants from donors such as USAID, ECHO, UNHCR and UNICEF. This included M&E, donor narrative and financial reporting and proposal development.
- Organized staff training on reporting and proposal development.

Recent and ongoing assignments (since joining ODI)

- A team member of the Budget Strengthening Initiative and am contributing to research and support to the g7+.
- Supporting the workstream on budget support.

Selected publications and reports

- Simson, R., Aziz, I. and Sharma, N. (2011) *A Guide to Public Financial Management Literature for Practitioners in Developing Countries*, London: ODI
- Moyo, M., Simson, R., Jacob, A. and de Mevius, F. (2011) *Tanzania: Growth and Structural Transformation Required to Reach Middle Income Status by 2025*, Working Paper, London: International Growth Centre

Selected personal publications

- Master's Dissertation: Liberia's external debt accumulation (1960-1990), London School of Economics and Political Science
- Bachelor's Dissertation: Race Relations in 1950s South Africa, Princeton University