

Curriculum Vitae

Gregory Smith

Nationality: British

Email: gregorylbsmith@gmail.com

Summary

- Economist with expertise in: public finance (central plus local government); aid modality design and analysis; public financial management and macroeconomics.
- Combines a solid academic and theoretical background in economics with experience of providing practical solutions whilst working largely with or within developing country finance ministries.
- Repeat work in Uganda, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Southern Sudan, UK (DFID HQ), Ireland (Irish Aid HQ) and Switzerland (UN HQ).

Education

- 2006-2010** **PhD Economics**, University of Nottingham, UK.
- **Research area:** 'The Impact of Different Aid Modalities on Public Expenditure and Overall Aid Effectiveness'.
 - **Methodology:** Formalised microeconomic model, empirical analysis and country case studies. Econometric skills utilised include analysis of both cross-country and time-series data.
- 2002-2003** **MSc Economics**, University of Nottingham, UK.
- **Core Subjects:** Econometrics, Economic Data Analysis, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Development Policy Analysis.
 - **Thesis:** 'Corruption and the Conditionality Associated with Aid'.
- 1999-2002** **BA Economics**, University of Sheffield, UK.
- **Core Subjects:** Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Development Economics, Public Sector Economics.
 - **Thesis:** 'The Impact of HIV/AIDS on Economic Growth in Africa'.

Employment History

- 2010**
(March-current) **Consultant at ODI's Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure**
Working on the design and piloting stage of a programme to support budget strengthening in fragile states. Main tasks include support to the budget process in Southern Sudan and public financial management reform diagnostics.
- 2010**
(Jan- March) **Ministry of Public Service, Uganda**
Consultant supporting the development of a fully costed framework to improve the attraction and retention of public officers in 'Hard-to-Reach' areas. The assignment involved travel and consultation with government personnel in remote and insecure areas of Uganda. An Excel costing tool was designed to cost interventions.
- 2009**
(Nov- Dec) **World Bank, Tanzania**
Short-term consultant tasked to lead a research project investigating the impact of aid unpredictability and volatility. The research focused at the macroeconomic level on how the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Tanzania managed aid inflows from multiple donors. At the sector level it focused on Health and the impact on service delivery.
- 2008-2009**
(Aug-Oct) **Irish Aid, Tanzania**
Full-time economist supporting the Irish Aid Tanzania programme and providing technical assistance to the Tanzanian Ministry of Finance. Responsible for: macroeconomic and fiscal analysis; aid modality design; national and local government budget analysis; review of Irish Aid's management of large financial transactions and assistance with the GoT in medium-term public investment planning.
- 2007-2009**
(Jun-Aug) **Ministry of Finance & Economic Planning, Southern Sudan**
Short-term consultant assisting the Ministry of Finance (via UNDP) with developing and strengthening the planning and budgeting process (11 visits of 1 week plus additional desk work). Tasks included designing guidelines for spending agency's budget

submissions and training personnel with the new formats. Emphasis has been placed on properly recording ongoing infrastructure commitments, scenario budgeting under uncertain oil revenues, and ensuring improvements to Sector Budget Plans.

- 2006-2008 (Nov-Jun) Ministry of Justice, Sierra Leone**
Economist providing technical assistance to the Justice Sector as part of a UK funded justice reform programme (10 visits, each of 6 weeks). Primary tasks were to assist the Government of Sierra Leone with drafting a costed justice sector investment plan and work with budget committees to improve strategic budgeting and enhance public financial management.
- 2006 (Jun-Sep) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva**
Economist working with UNCTAD's investment policy review team on a research project (4 months). The output was a report on the implementation of FDI seeking reforms in Uganda since 2000.
- 2006 (Mar-Apr) Department for International Development, UK**
Short-term consultant carrying out a comparative study of sectoral expenditure for 11 countries that received general budget support from DFID. Tasks included designing an Excel based tool to provide a consistent and efficient methodology for comparing Medium Term Expenditure Frameworks from different countries using contrasting accounting methods.
- 2006 (Jan-Feb) Commonwealth Secretariat, UK**
Short-term consultant (3 months) assisting the Secretariat with drafting technical cooperation framework documents for the Africa and Pacific regions. A survey was designed and results collected to assess performance of the Secretariat in areas of technical assistance and trade facilitation.
- 2005 (Nov-Dec) World Bank, Uganda.**
Part of a team assigned to conduct the first Public Expenditure and Fiduciary Assessment at the local government level. The work involved reorienting the benchmarking system to capture issues associated with local governments and then its application in the Ugandan context. Field visits were made to district HQs, sub-county offices, and service delivery units.
- 2003-2005 (Sep-Oct) ODI Fellowship: Ministry of Finance, Uganda.**
Economist with a full-time two year contract in the budget policy department. Main responsibilities included: operating the Medium Term Expenditure Framework; producing budget performance reports; preparing answers for IMF and World Bank missions; and assisting with general fiscal/ macroeconomic research and analysis. Work in the budget policy department also involved frequent trips to local governments to provide training for finance officials.
- 2000-2002 Economic/ Financial Journalist: The Guardian Newspaper, UK**
Short-term assignments assisting with the preparation of UK national budget material for the national press. In-depth analysis of UK fiscal policy was enabled via interaction with the UK Treasury and Institute of Fiscal Studies. Published an article to explain growth in UK manufacturing output in the national press.

Skills

Computer Expert command of MS Excel, PowerPoint and Word (including template and electronic survey design). Experience with numerous econometric packages (including Microfit, E-views, and Stata), plus competent usage of Maplesoft mathematics software.

Language English (native speaker), Kiswahili (fair) and French (basic).