

ANJA BENSHAUL-TOLONEN

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Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Barnard College, Columbia University
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EMPLOYMENT AND AFFILIATIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics
Barnard College, Columbia University (since 2015)

Affiliated Faculty, Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC)
Columbia University (since 2019)

Affiliated Faculty, Center for Development Economics and Policy (CDEP)
Columbia University (since 2015)

Affiliated Faculty, Center for Environmental Economics and Policy (CEEP)
Columbia University (since 2019)

External Researcher, Oxford Center for Research on Natural Resource Rich Economies (OxCarre)
University of Oxford (since 2013)

Affiliated Researcher, Department of Economics
University of Gothenburg, Sweden (since 2016)

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics
University of Gothenburg, Department of Economics, September 2010 - May 2015

Visiting Research Scholar
University of California at Berkeley, Department of Economics, 2013-2014

Visiting DPhil Student
University of Oxford, Department of Economics, 2012-2013

BA and MSc in Economics
University of Gothenburg, 2006-2010
Visiting student at: HEC Montreal (Canada), Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (South Africa),
International Institute for Population Sciences (India)

PAST POSITIONS

Department Visitor, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs
Princeton University (2018-2019)

Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics
New York University, 2019

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, Natural Resource Economics, Economics of Gender, Labor Economics

GRANTS

Active Grants

“Measuring the spatial distribution and local multipliers of local procurement in the mining industry in Zambia”. International Growth Centre (IGC), London School of Economics and University of Oxford. GBP 15,000. Term: 2023-2024.

“Firm Culture: Examining the Role of Gender in Job Matching in an Online African Labor Market” Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries (PEDL) Exploratory Research Grant, Center for Economic Policy Research. Joint with Belinda Archibong, Francis Annan, Oyebola Okunogbe. Term: Ongoing.

“Schooling, Periods and Poverty”. Barnard College Presidential Award 2019. Barnard College, Columbia University. 49,000 USD. Principal Investigator. Term: Ongoing

Prior Awards Now Terminated

“Schooling, Periods and Poverty”. The Collaborative to Advance Equity Through Research at Columbia University, USD 5,000, PI.

“Firm Culture: Examining the Role of Gender in Job Matching in an Online African Labor Market” Columbia Center for Development Economics and Policy (CDEP), USD 10,000, Co-PI with Belinda Archibong.

“Information Asymmetries in the Household”. Seed Grant The World Bank, 30,000 USD. Co-PI with Eeshani Kandpal.

“Information Asymmetries in the Household”. Columbia Center for Development Economics and Policy (CDEP), USD 6,600, PI

“Information Asymmetries in the Household”. Barnard College Mini-grant (2016), USD 2,000. PI.

“Abandoned Mines in Africa”. UNESCO (2015-2017), USD 20,000. PI.

“Access to Sanitary Products and Well-being” Barnard College Mini-grant (2016), USD 2,000. PI.

Travel Grants and Other Grants

ISERP Workshop/Seminar joint with Sandy Black, Elizabeth Ananat and Belinda Archibong.
Special Assistant Professor Leave Grant, Barnard College, 12,000 USD, PI
Travel Grant, Project on Resources and Governance (PRG), 8,000 USD, PI
Wallenberg Postdoctoral Scholarship to Stanford University (2015-2017), USD 130,000 (Declined)
Samuelson Graduate Exchange Stipend to University of California, Berkeley (2013-2014)
Hedelius Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies to University of Oxford (2012-2013), USD 8,000
Lars Hierta Research Grant (2012-2014), USD 7,000 (Mining in Sub-Saharan Africa)
Knut and Alice Wallenberg Travel Grant (2014)
Siamon Stiftelsen Travel Grant (2014)
Adlerbertska Stipendiestiftelsen Travel Grant (2012, 2014)
Paul och Marie Berghaus Travel Grant (2012, 2013, 2014)

PUBLICATIONS

Aguilar-Gomez, S., & Benschaul-Tolonen, A. "The Evolution and Persistence of Women's Roles: Evidence from the Gold Rush." Forthcoming at *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.
(*Benschaul-Tolonen is corresponding author*)

Benschaul-Tolonen, Anja. "Industrial Gold Mining and Female Empowerment." Forthcoming at *Economic Development and Cultural Change*.
(*Benschaul-Tolonen is corresponding author*)

Babagoli, Masih A., Anja Benschaul-Tolonen, Garazi Zulaika, Elizabeth Nyothach, Clifford Oduor, David Obor, Linda Mason et al. "Cost-Effectiveness and Cost-Benefit Analyses of Providing Menstrual Cups and Sanitary Pads to Schoolgirls in Rural Kenya." *Women's Health Reports* 3, no. 1 (2022): 773-784.
(*Benschaul-Tolonen is corresponding author*)

Stoilova, Dani, Rebecca Cai, Sandra Aguilar-Gomez, Naomi Heller Batzer, Elias Charles Nyanza, and Anja Benschaul-Tolonen. "Biological, material and socio-cultural constraints to effective menstrual hygiene management among secondary school students in Tanzania." *PLOS Global Public Health* 2, no. 3 (2022): e0000110.
(*Benschaul-Tolonen is corresponding author and principal investigator*)

Axbard, Sebastian, Anja Benschaul-Tolonen, and Jonas Poulsen. "Natural resource wealth and crime: The role of international price shocks and public policy." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 110 (2021): 102527.
(*Equal contributions by authors*)

Baum, Sarah, and Anja Benschaul-Tolonen. "Extractive industries and gender equality." *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* 15.2 (2021): 195-215.
(*Benschaul-Tolonen is corresponding author*)

Benshaul-Tolonen, Anja, Sandra Aguilar-Gomez, Naomi Heller Batzer, Rebecca Cai, and Elias Charles Nyanza. "Period teasing, stigma and knowledge: A survey of adolescent boys and girls in Northern Tanzania." *PLoS One* 15, no. 10 (2020): e0239914.

(Benshaul-Tolonen is corresponding author)

Benshaul-Tolonen, Anja, Garazi Zulaika, Marni Sommer, and Penelope A. Phillips-Howard. "Measuring menstruation-related absenteeism among adolescents in low-income countries." *The Palgrave handbook of critical menstruation studies* (2020): 705-723.

(Benshaul-Tolonen is corresponding author)

Benshaul-Tolonen, Anja. "Local industrial shocks and infant mortality." *The Economic Journal* 129, no. 620 (2019): 1561-1592.

(Benshaul-Tolonen is corresponding author)

Velho, Nandini, Ruth S. DeFries, Anja Tolonen, Umesh Srinivasan, and Aditi Patil. "Aligning conservation efforts with resource use around protected areas." *Ambio* 48 (2019): 160-171.

(Benshaul-Tolonen contributed to the survey instrument and writing of the manuscript)

Benshaul-Tolonen, Anja, Punam Chuhan-Pole, Andrew Dabalen, Andreas Kotsadam, and Aly Sanoh. "The local socioeconomic effects of gold mining: Evidence from Ghana." *The Extractive Industries and Society* 6, no. 4 (2019): 1234-1255.

(Benshaul-Tolonen is corresponding author)

Rhee, Sophia, Elias Charles Nyanza, Madison Condon, Joshua Fisher, Theresia Maduka, and Anja Benshaul-Tolonen. "Understanding environmental, health and economic activity interactions following transition of ownership in gold mining areas in Tanzania: A case of private to public." *Land use policy* 79 (2018): 650-658.

(Benshaul-Tolonen is corresponding author and principal investigator)

Mining in Africa: Are Local Communities Better Off? By Punam Chuhan-Pole, Andrew L. Dabalen, and Bryan Christopher Land, in collaboration with Michael Lewin, Aly Sanoh, Gregory Smith, and Anja Tolonen. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, The World Bank, 2017.

(Benshaul-Tolonen contributed to one chapter (conceptualization, analysis and writing), and to the book introduction as part of a consultancy)

Kotsadam, Andreas, and Anja Tolonen. "African mining, gender, and local employment." *World Development* 83 (2016): 325-339.

(Equal contributions of authors)

WORKING PAPERS

Anja Benschaul-Tolonen, Garazi Zulaika, Elizabeth Nyothach, Clifford Oduor, Kelly Alexander, David Obor, Kayla Laserson & Penelope A. Phillips-Howard. “The causal impact of sanitary products on school absenteeism and psychosocial well-being: Evidence from Western Kenya.” (2023).
(Benschaul-Tolonen is corresponding author)

WORK IN PROGRESS

Archibong, Belinda, Francis Annan, Anja Benschaul-Tolonen, Oyebola Okunogbe, and Ifeatu Oliobi. "Firm Culture: Examining the Role of Gender and Ethnicity in Job Matching in an Online African Labor Market" (2022).
(Equal contributions of authors)

Benschaul-Tolonen, A., Gibertini, B., & Konte, M. “African Mining and The Gender Gap in Political Participation.” Unpublished (2023).
(Benschaul-Tolonen is the corresponding author)

Benschaul-Tolonen, A. “The Value Added Tax Footprint of the Zambian Mining Sector: A Network Analysis.” Unpublished (2023).
(Benschaul-Tolonen is the corresponding author)

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

African Mining, Employment and Women’s Empowerment. European Center for Development Policy Management. Great Insights: Mining for Development. Volume 6. Issue 3. July/August 2017.

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development: Young Scholar Think Piece. First Series: Extractive Industries, “African Mining, Gender and Local Employment”. 2014.

COURSES TAUGHT

ECON 3029 Empirical Development Economics, Barnard College, 2016-2023
ECON 3018 Econometrics, Barnard College, 2017-2023
ECON 2020 Introduction to Development Economics, Barnard College, 2016-2023
ECON 2063 Women in Development Economics, Seminar, Barnard College, 2015- 2023
ECON 3098 Guided Research, Barnard College, 2020-2021

Microeconomics, University of Gothenburg, 2012-2013, Teaching assistant
Macroeconomics, University of Gothenburg, 2013, Teaching assistant
International Economics, University of Gothenburg, 2014, Teaching assistant
Transparency Initiatives in Economics (PhD level), University of Gothenburg, 2014

INVITED SEMINARS AND TALKS

Columbia University (2023)
Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (2022)
Colorado School of Mines (2022)

Cornell University (2022)
University of Groningen (2021)
Population Council, 2019
IFPRI, 2019
Teachers College, Columbia University, 2019
Princeton University, Department of Economics, 2018
Fordham University, Department of Economics, 2018
Simon Fraser University, Department of Economics, 2018
University of Oxford, Department of Economics, 2018
New York University, Department of Economics, 2017
Wesleyan College, Departments of Economics, 2017
Columbia University, Department of Economics, 2016
University of Chicago, Department of Economics/EPIC, 2015
UNCTAD, Oil Gas and Mine Conference, Khartoum, Sudan, 2015
The World Bank, Governance Global Practice/Extractive Industries Group, 2014
University of Oxford, Department of Economics, 2015
Barnard College, Columbia University, Department of Economics, 2015
University of California, Berkeley, Agriculture and Resource Economics, 2014
University of California, Berkeley, Department of Economics, 2014
University of California, Berkeley, Women in Economics, 2014
University of Copenhagen, Department of Food and Resource Economics, 2014
University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics, 2014
Norwegian University of Life Sciences, School of Economics and Business, 2014
Workshop for socioeconomic impact of mining in Africa, The World Bank, 2014

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society, 2023
University of Oxford, Center for the Study of African Economies, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2023
Eastern Economic Association Meeting, 2021
Multifaceted Menstruation Workshop, Columbia University, 2019
Annual Women Princeton and Columbia Women in Economics Conference, 2019, 2021
Northeastern Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
New York Development Economics Nano-Conference (2018)
2nd IZA Workshop: Gender and Family Economics (IZA/Barnard), 2018
2nd IZA Workshop: Gender and Family Economics (IZA/Barnard) Poster session, 2018
Indiana University Bloomington, The Ostrom Workshop, 2018
American Economic Association (AEA/ASSA), 2016, 2018
Entrepreneurship and Private Enterprises in Emerging Economies (EPED), NYU, 2017
Working Group for African Political Economy (WGAPE), Stanford University, 2016
Working Group for African Political Economy (WGAPE), UC Berkeley, 2013
Liberal Arts College Development Economics (LacDEV), 2016, 2017
Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty, 2013, 2015

Pacific Development (PacDev), 2014, 2017
Occasional California Workshop in Environmental and Resource Economics, UCSB, 2013
IZA and World Bank Conference on Employment and Development, Lima, 2014
European Economic Association (EEA) Conference, 2013

INVITED SPEAKER AT NON-ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

“Revisiting Conventional Assumptions: Gender and Extractives” at National Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), New York, November 2017

“Women and Extractive Industries: Exploration of Local Impacts using Global Evidence” at National Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), Lima, Peru, November 2017

“Women and Extractive Industries: Exploring the Local Impacts” at Project on Resources, Development, and Governance (PRDG) at University of California Los Angeles, September 2017

“Women and Extractive Industries: What Does Recent Evidence Show?” at United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Oil Gas and Mine Conference, Khartoum, Sudan, 2015

“Local Industrial Shocks, Female Empowerment and Infant Health: Evidence from Africa’s Gold Mining Industry” at The World Bank, Governance Global Practice/Extractive Industries Group, Washington, D.C., 2014

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Department:

Junior search committee (2022-2023)
Organizer department seminars (2018-2019)

College:

Faculty Committee on Internationalization (2021-2023), Research mentor to Mulu Gebreeyesus, Weiss International Scholar, Barnard College, 2022-2025
Barnard Center for Research on Women (BCRW), Barnard College, Advisory Board (2015-2016)

University:

PhD Committee, Sandra Aguilar-Gomez, Sustainable Development PhD program, 2020
Master thesis advisor, Qianyi Zhao, QMSS, Columbia ‘16
Seminar organizer Women in Applied Microeconomics, Columbia University, 2022-2023
Co-organizer ISERP Workshop/Seminar “Diversifying the Social Sciences: The Women in Economics Working Group”, 2020-2021,
Co-organizer seminar series “CU Women in Applied Micro”
Organizer 4th Annual Conference for Princeton/Columbia Women in Economics Network, 2021
Organizer 3rd Annual Conference for Princeton/Columbia Women in Economics Network, 2019

Organizer 2nd Annual Conference for Princeton/Columbia Women in Economics Network, 2019
Organizer: 1st Annual Columbia Women in Economics Network, 2018
Founder Columbia Women in Economics Network, 2017
Member, Menstrual Health and Gender Justice Working Group, Columbia University, 2018
Mentor at The Global Public Policy Network Annual Conference, SIPA, Columbia, 2018

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Editorial Council, Land Economics (2021-)
Affiliated faculty: Project on Resources, Development, and Governance (PRDG), UCLA, 2017-
Session Organizer, American Economic Association Meeting, ASSA/AEA 2018
Session Organizer, American Economic Association Meeting, ASSA/AEA 2016
PhD Committee Member, Djeynaba Ba, PhD, Ohio State University, 2023

PEER REVIEWING

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Canadian Research Council, Development and Change; Economic Development and Cultural Change; Economics and Human Development; The Economic Journal; Economies; Environmental Science and Pollution Research, The European Research Council (European Commission), Feminist Economics, International Journal of Women's Health; Journal of African Economies, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economic; Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of South African Economics; Land Investment, National Science Foundation, The Extractive Industries and Society, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Policy Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Resources Policy, Review of Development Economics, Review of Development Economics, Review of Economics of the Household, Sustainability, Towson University, UK Medical Research Council, World Development.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Mimi Sam '16, (2016)
Theresa Schmidt '16, (2016)
Shelby Jennings '16, (2016)
Leeza Gavronsky '17 (2016-2017)
Sarah Baum '17 (2017)
Naomi Batzer '17 (2016-2017)
Karina Lambert '17 (2016-2017)
Lurum Lawino (CU) '18 (2016)
Daisy Homolka '18 (2016-2017)
Anne Kim '18 (2017)
Omaymhah Al Harasheh '18 (2018)
Rebecca Cai (CU) '20 (2018-2020)
Masih Babagolli (CU) '18 (2018-2020)
Brooke Levy '20 (2020)

Dani Stoilova '21
Reda Shaikh (Bridgewater Scholar)
Julia Neely (Bridgewater Scholar)
Camila Fernandez (Bridgewater Scholar)
Paula Fernandez Musso '24

PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mentor, Aisha Yusuf, Georgetown University (PhD student)
Mentor, Suvekshya Gautam, University of Washington (PhD Student)

CONSULTANSHIPS

Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI). Consultant. 2017.
The World Bank, Development Research Group (DECRG). Consultant. 2014-2015.
The World Bank, Office of the Chief Economist for the Africa Region. Consultant. 2014.
The World Bank, Office of the Chief Economist for the Africa Region. Consultant. 2015.