

Michael Kipkorir Kemboi

Public Policy Researcher and Analyst | Agri-Food Systems, Trade and Quantitative Policy Analysis

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Public policy researcher and analyst with 10 years of experience designing and delivering applied research on agriculture and food systems, international trade, economics, digital rights and education. Doctoral researcher in Public Policy at the University of Nairobi, supported by a PASGR and Carnegie Corporation of New York scholarship, with research on policy implementation across Kenya's agri-food sector. Author of eight journal articles, including recent work in the Journal of Agribusiness in Developing and Emerging Economies and the British Food Journal. Experienced in quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research using SmartPLS, Stata, R and SPSS, and in translating evidence into policy reports, briefs and training for government, non-governmental and private-sector clients.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Policy and advisory: Public policy analysis; policy implementation research; policy reports and briefs; evidence-based recommendations; stakeholder engagement; project management; curriculum development; research training and capacity building

Research methods: Quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research design; survey design and data collection; key informant interviews; focus group discussions; secondary data analysis; literature and evidence reviews

Statistical analysis: Partial least squares structural equation modelling (PLS-SEM); multivariate and multiple regression; seemingly unrelated regression; econometric and time-series analysis

Software and data: SmartPLS, Stata, R, SPSS; World Bank World Development Indicators, Heritage Foundation Index of Economic Freedom, Afrobarometer, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS)

Sector expertise: Agriculture and agri-food enterprises; food security and nutrition; agricultural trade and trade liberalisation; digital agriculture; financial inclusion; digital rights and online safety; education assessment

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Researcher and Public Policy Analyst

October 2018 – Present

ResearchCannon, Independent Research and Policy Consultancy, Kenya

- Lead policy research and analysis assignments for public, private and non-governmental clients, producing evidence-based recommendations in complex policy and political environments.
- Collect, clean and analyse trade and socio-economic data from international and national sources, including the World Bank, Afrobarometer and KNBS, complemented by primary surveys and focus group discussions.
- Apply econometric, regression and structural equation modelling techniques in Stata, R, SPSS and SmartPLS to test policy questions and quantify relationships.
- Draft policy reports and briefs that convert technical findings into clear, actionable recommendations, with rigorous checks on data accuracy and citation quality.
- Manage concurrent projects to deadline and maintain long-term client relationships across diverse cultural, educational and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Co-author peer-reviewed research on agricultural resilience, food security, nutrition policy and financial inclusion with regional and international collaborators.

Lead Researcher and Curriculum Consultant

September 2025

Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet)

- Led a study assessing the integration of Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV) concepts into university curricula.
- Designed a skills-training framework for educators covering digital safety and legal responses to online violence.
- Recommended revisions to university syllabi to address emerging digital rights challenges.

Research Assistant (Contract)

January 2019; May 2021

Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC)

- May 2021: collected Early Learning Programme (ELP) Class 5 assessment data at Jina Primary School, Siaya County, covering English, Kiswahili, Mathematics and life skills competencies.
- January 2019: collected data at Ndungulu Primary School, Uasin Gishu County, for National Assessment System for Monitoring Learner Achievement (NASMLA) studies.

Co-Consultant

June 2012 – 2018

Focus Business & Research Associates, Kenya

- Completed more than 100 research assignments in international trade, economics and public policy for government, NGO and private-sector clients.
- Applied mixed-methods approaches, including surveys, interviews, focus groups, secondary data analysis and literature reviews.
- Prepared policy reports and briefs supported by statistical analysis in SPSS, Stata and R.
- Designed and delivered tailored training in research methods, statistical software and trade policy analysis.
- Coordinated tasks and deadlines across multi-member research teams.

Research Associate

August 2015

West Pokot County, Kenya

- Contributed to developing and presenting frameworks to assess the economic viability and sustainability of local chicken processing in West Pokot County.

EDUCATION

PhD in Public Policy

2022 – Present

University of Nairobi, Kenya

- Doctoral scholarship from the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) and Carnegie Corporation of New York.
- Research on policy implementation across Kenya's agri-food sector, covering enterprise characteristics, resource efficiency and digital agriculture, grounded in institutional theory and using PLS-SEM and multivariate regression.

Master of Research and Public Policy

2017 – 2019

University of Nairobi, Kenya

- Thesis: The contribution of trade liberalisation to agricultural growth in Kenya.
<https://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke/handle/11295/154741>

Bachelor of Arts in Business Studies with Information Technology

2012 – 2016

Maseno University, Kenya

PUBLICATIONS

1. **From policy to plow: Who is getting it right on resilience in Kenyan agriculture?** Kemboi, M. K., Otele, O., & Mazenda, A. (2026). Journal of Agribusiness in Developing and Emerging Economies. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JADEE-09-2025-0447>
2. **Food choice and diet quality of women fishing households in Tanzania.** Mazenda, A., Kipkorir, K. M., Asilla, R., & Katiyatiya, C. L. F. (2026). Ecology of Food and Nutrition, 65(3–4), 84–108. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03670244.2026.2663760>
3. **National policies for improving micronutrient intake in school meals: A global cross-sectional study.** Sari, N. P. W. P., Mazenda, A., Kemboi, M., Nguyen, M.-H., & Vuong, Q.-H. (2026). Health Science Reports, 9, Article e72362. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hsr2.72362>
4. **Coping strategies and food insecurity experiences: The case of female-headed agricultural households in Liberia.** Kemboi, M. K., Mazenda, A., & Katiyatiya, C. L. F. (2024). British Food Journal, 126(7), 2825–2840. <https://doi.org/10.1108/BFJ-10-2023-0884>
5. **Digital financial inclusion and financial health in Kenya: Gendered analysis.** Wandeda, D. O., Poulard, D., Kipkorir, K. M., Ikiriinya, C. K., Lentimalei, J. W., Michael, K., Loyapan, P. E., & Ntutu, J. (2023). African Journal of Economic Review, 11(3), 55–68. <https://doi.org/10.22004/ag.econ.339642>

6. **A case study to establish the economic viability of local chicken production and processing in West Pokot County, Kenya.** Kemboi, M. K., Rop, K. N., & Kering, V. (2021). *Journal of Economics, Management Sciences & Procurement*, 1(1), 1–73.
7. **Short and long-run impact of trade liberalization on agricultural growth in Kenya.** Kemboi, M. K., & Oleche, M. O. (2020). *International Journal of Finance, Insurance and Risk Management*, 10(3), 117–131. <https://doi.org/10.35808/ijfirm/226>
8. **Agricultural trade liberalization in Kenya and implications for Kenya China trade relations.** Kipkorir, K. M. (2020). *Developing Country Studies*, 10(1), 86–93. <https://doi.org/10.7176/DCS/10-1-07>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

6th International Conference on Public Policy (ICPP6) **June 2023**
Toronto, Canada. Presenter: Exploring the potential of AI-based digital learning platforms in countering political disinformation.

2nd International Conference on Peace, Security and Social Enterprise **May 2022**
Nairobi, Kenya. Presenter: Leveraging youth social media literacy to counter political disinformation in an electioneering period.

Annual Conference on China-Africa Relations **October 2019**
Nairobi, Kenya. Presenter: Agricultural trade liberalisation in Kenya and its implications for Kenya-China trade relations.

Partnership for Pedagogical Leadership in Africa (PEDAL) Conference **August 2018**
Nairobi, Kenya. Delegate: catalysing systemic change in teaching and learning in African universities.

World Science Conference **August 2015**
Israel. Delegate: scientific achievement, interdisciplinary dialogue and cross-national cooperation.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer **May 2012**
Family Impact – Africa

- Led a four-person team preparing funding proposals in response to donor calls, contributing to a successful grant award.
- Supported financial documentation and payment schedules, enabling timely supplier payments and account closure.
- Delivered leadership training for secondary school prefects across the North Rift region.

AWARDS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Doctoral Scholarship, PASGR and Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Member, International Public Policy Association (IPPA)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: English, Kiswahili

Nationality: Kenyan

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REFEREES

Available upon request.