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Key Qualifications

Country Project Experience:

(Primary Data Collection): Mozambique, South Africa, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, Djibouti, Liberia, Uganda, Somalia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Botswana, Angola, Mali, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, eSwatini, South Sudan

(Remote Data Collection): Mali, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, South Africa, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Georgia

African Affairs: Two decades of experience in understanding and analysis of the complex relationship between social, developmental, political, economic, health and displacement issues in Africa.

Management and Oversight: Design and implement research projects in developing countries, particularly east Africa, on political economy, informal institutions, violence and extremism, health and access to resources, gender, youth, humanitarian and developmental needs, markets, civil society, food insecurity and agriculture, human rights, health, livelihoods and DRR, and public policy; recruit, train, and manage local subcontractors, field researchers, and thematic experts across sub-Saharan Africa.

Research and Data Analysis: Extensive knowledge of qualitative and quantitative methods in interviewing, surveys, focus groups, archival research, and ethnography; develop unique methodologies for quality data collection amongst hidden, conflicted, youth, and displaced populations; intelligence gathering (all-source); oversee expert analysts for qualitative and quantitative analysis and reporting.

Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation: Systematically analyze data to assist in improving research design, design indicators, and inform policy decisions; assess projects to improve future data collection/analysis; conduct needs assessments and evaluations; ensure projects provide maximum utility to stakeholders in local organizations and for policymakers.

Capacity Building: Provide best practices for data collection and analysis for international and local research contractors, NGOs, INGOs, the U.S. government, and military.

Networks, Teaching, and Training: Long-term collaborations with NGOs, USAID, UN organizations, U.S. Embassies, AFRICOM/CJTF-HOA, research organizations across sub-Saharan Africa, and academics to successfully analyze political and economic processes, poverty, and development needs; teach graduates/undergraduates and train local researchers and contractors.

Research Methodologies

- Survey design and implementation, including oversight of statistical random sampling based on country censuses: Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Mozambique, Angola, South Africa, Djibouti, Zimbabwe, eSwatini, Somalia, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria
- Focus groups: Mozambique, Ethiopia, South Africa, Somalia, eSwatini, Malawi
- In-depth and semi-structured interviews: Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Liberia, Ethiopia, eSwatini, Uganda, Malawi, Sierra Leone

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Florida: Comparative Politics; International Public Policy. Specialization: sub-Saharan Africa, with a focus on development, health, human rights and access to resources in Mozambique; qualitative and quantitative methodologies.

M.A. Political Science, University of Florida: International Development, Comparative Politics (sub-Saharan Africa)

B.A. Theatre, Barry University

Professional Experience

Founder and Director, KGF Research and Associates, Mozambique (December 2016-present); Co-Founder and Managing Director, REAL Consulting (2018-present).

- Design and implement data collection (qualitative and quantitative) and analysis for multiple stakeholders; focus on Monitoring and Evaluation and needs assessments;
- Partner with and capacity build research teams in Africa, particularly in east and southern Africa;
- Specialize in hard-to-reach or hidden communities and populations; violence and extremism, health; gender; development and humanitarian needs; climate effects on livelihoods; trafficking; support within displaced and/or conflict communities;
- Clients include World Vision, CARE, Coffey, NORC, UNICEF, Plan Intl, Village Enterprise, and multiple US universities for projects funded by USAID, DFID, EU.

International Research Analyst/Project Manager, Office of Opinion Research, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, U.S. Department of State (July 2010-December 2015).

- Conceptualize and oversee new research methodologies and projects: quantitative, nationally representative surveys with sampling based on country census data, and qualitative research in East and Southern Africa (Mozambique, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Djibouti, Angola, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Swaziland);
- Topics included: CVE and conflict/displacement, institutions, health and development, gender, youth, governance, displacement of populations, trafficking and poaching, behavior change;
- Analyze intelligence reports and primary quantitative/qualitative data on various African
 populations (adults, youth, displaced) for high-level policymakers, embassies, USAID, and
 AFRICOM/SOCOM/CTTF-HOA to assist foreign policy and programming. Averaged 12-15 reports per
 year for the U.S. government;
- Monitor and evaluate research projects based on best practices and rapidly changing situations; review data source quality and collection methods;
- Regularly travel to Africa to train and manage contractor teams to ensure high quality quantitative data; collaborate with U.S. government policymakers, NGOs, and academics; work with partners to disseminate data; brief high-level stakeholders.

Policy Advisor for Africa, Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, U.S. Department of State (November 2013-August 2014, for a 9-month temporary detail).

- Oversee grants for women and girls throughout sub-Saharan Africa; monitor trends, coordinate strategies and priority areas, and serve as liaison between the U.S. government and NGOs to build support for gender mainstreaming in programming and policy;
- Track and evaluate human rights, institutions, and assistance efforts and analyze current and previous trends in Africa for senior policymakers and development program officers;
- Monitor and evaluate assistance efforts and conduct needs assessments and country assessments based on security and development issues for women.

University Teaching Experience

- **Regular Guest Speaker, Various Universities:** lecturing on gender, international development, conflict, trafficking, and security.
- Adjunct Professor, University of New Hampshire, Fall 2021-present: Teaching graduate seminars on Research Methods, and International Development and Global Conflict for development practitioners in online MA program on Global Conflict and Security.
- Adjunct Professor, Virginia Tech (Alexandria campus), 2011: Taught graduate course on Global Conflict.

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- Visiting Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech (Blacksburg campus), August 2009-July 2010: Taught courses on African Politics, Global Conflict (graduate), Intro to Comparative Politics.
- Instructor, Virginia Tech, August 2008-July 2009: Taught courses on African Politics, Intro to Comparative Politics, International Relations.
- Instructor, University of Florida, Summer 2008: Taught course on African Politics.

Other Academic Projects

 Various research projects in South Africa, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Swaziland (now eSwatini), 2002current. Extended summaries available upon request. Current collaborations include NORC at the University of Chicago, University of Maryland, and University of Texas-Austin.

Publications, Research Reports, and Conferences

• Extensive list, available upon request.

List of Projects from 2016-present as Director of KGF Pesquisas and REAL Consulting

Extensive list, available upon request.

Languages

English: Native

Portuguese: Advanced

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