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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Research Officer; Business, Markets & State cluster

LANGUAGES: English (native), French (basic)

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: Private finance and investment; development finance; financial education

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: Projects currently focus on Ethiopia, Nigeria, India, Bangladesh, China, and SE Asia

OVERVIEW

Keir Macdonald is currently a Research Officer in the IDS Business, Markets, and State cluster. His interests include the role of public and private financing in development and the future of social impact and responsible investing. He is also interested in financial inclusion, with a focus on financial literacy education. His recent work at IDS has included a holistic analysis of a market systems change programme in Ethiopia aimed at creating a more active private equity market to support small local firms; a study of how market sentiment changes over time in three different developing markets; analysis of global value chains in the garments and electronics sector, understanding how these have been affected by Covid-19; and a review of China's activities in development finance.

Prior to joining IDS, he worked for five years at Redington Ltd., a London-based investment consultant. Keir's role was to lead the research into investment strategies and investment managers in renewable energy, infrastructure, and real estate, involving in-depth qualitative and quantitative analysis. Alongside this role he co-ran RedSTART Educate, a charity focusing on providing financial education to primary school children in the UK.

In September 2020 Keir completed an MA in Development Studies at IDS, including writing a dissertation exploring the different actors affecting financial education policy and implementation in developing countries. His other research during my Masters focused on the provision of renewable energy to rural communities in Kenya.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2019 – 2020 **MA Development Studies with distinction**
Institute of Development Studies, UK

2010 – 2014 **BA Classics**
University of Oxford, UK

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2020 – PRESENT **Research Officer, Institute of Development Studies, UK**
Supporting research in the Business, Markets and the State cluster.

2014 – 2019 **Manager Research Team, Redington Ltd, UK**
Promoted to Vice President in 2019 with responsibility for all investment research into renewable energy, infrastructure, and real estate.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

2014 – 2019 **Co-head of Strategy, RedSTART Educate**

SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Jan 2021 – Mar 2021** **Report on gendered impacts of COVID-19 on global value chains**
Analysis focusing on garment and electronics value chains in Asia.
- Sep 2020 - Jan 2021** **Evaluation of FCDO's Private Enterprise Programme Ethiopia**
Leading research into the effectiveness of the programme's Private Capital Advisory Facility, which aimed to create a private equity market which was more conducive to local businesses.
- Sep 2020 – Dec 2020** **Study of the impacts of business environment reforms on gender and inclusion in Indonesia**
Literature review and qualitative analysis of the impacts of business environment reforms on gender and inclusion in businesses in Indonesia.
- Jul 2020 – Mar 2021** **Longitudinal analysis of CDC Group's private capital mobilisation**
Providing investment expertise into projects analysing impacts of CDC's investments in developing markets on the mobilisation of private capital. Focus on investments in Nigeria, Bangladesh, and India.
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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Saha, A.; Thorpe, J.; **Macdonald, K.** and Megersa, K. (2021) 'Linking Business Environment Reform with Gender and Inclusion: A Study of Business Licensing Reform in Indonesia', *K4D Emerging Issues Report 39*, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies, DOI: 10.19088/K4D.2021.001 (accessed 25 March 2021)
- Macdonald, K.** (2021) 'The Impact of Business Environment Reforms on Poverty, Gender and Inclusion', *K4D Helpdesk Report 898*, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies, DOI: 10.19088/K4D.2021.006 (accessed 25 March 2021)
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