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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Research fellow & Cluster Leader of the Power & Popular Politics research cluster

NATIONALITY: Dutch

LANGUAGES: English (fluent), Dutch (mother language)

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: Conflict and violence, citizenship, identity, agency, politics and local governance, youth

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: East and Southern Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Nigeria

OVERVIEW

Marjoke Oosterom is a research fellow and lecturer at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex. She is currently heading the Power & Popular Research Cluster. Marjoke has a background in comparative politics and development studies. Her research concentrates on how experiences of conflict, violence and authoritarianism affect dynamics of social and political action, with a specific focus on youth politics. Marjoke research on young people extends to youth empowerment and participation; youth, peace and security (YPS), and youth in the informal economy. She uses ethnographic and qualitative research methodologies, including participatory (visual) research methods; and has also facilitated youth-led research. Marjoke has been involved in advisory work for policy makers, UN agencies and international NGOs working on democratic governance, peace and security, youth, voice and accountability, and citizen participation. Marjoke currently leads the IDS Strategic Research Initiative 'Youth employment and politics', which focuses on Africa, the MENA region, and South Asia.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2019	Fellow of the British Higher Education Academy (PGCert teaching qualification in UK)
2014	PhD Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK <i>Thesis: 'The effects of conflict and forced displacement on the experience and practice of citizenship. A case study in Northern Uganda'.</i>
2007	MA: Advanced Masters Programme in International Development (AMID) Centre for International Development Issues (CIDIN) Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands
2006	MSc: Political Science, Comparative politics Faculty of Management, Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands
2006	MA: Development Studies Centre for International Development Issues (CIDIN) Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2022-PRESENT **Cluster leader of the Power & Popular Research Cluster, Institute of Development Studies.**

2016 – PRESENT **Research fellow, Institute of Development Studies**

Research Projects and Awarded Grants:

- *British Academy 'Youth Futures' grant: 'The gendered price of precarity. Workplace sexual harassment and young women's agency in formal firms and informal economy in Uganda and Bangladesh.* (Principal Investigator, 2020-2021, £300,000)
- *ESRC Grant: 'Learning on the Streets. Urban youth and the informal economy in Zimbabwe.* (Principal Investigator, 2019-2021, £300,000). Research on political socialization of urban youth.
- *NorGlobal: The Politics of Youth Interventions in Africa's Authoritarian Regimes, in Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Uganda.* A collaboration with CMI, University of Bergen. (2019-2022, £760,000.-; Co-Project lead for the Zimbabwe case-study.)
- *DFID: Action for Empowerment and Accountability.* Project lead for the project on civil society action for Commission of Inquiry, Plateau State, Nigeria; Co-investigator in the project on 'Demanding Power: fuel and energy protests in Mozambique, Nigeria and Pakistan' (£ 5 million, 2018-2021).
- *GCRF Network grant: African Digital Rights Network.* Online dynamics of repression, surveillance and activism for digital citizenship, in 10 countries (Co-investigator, 2020-2021).
- *IFAD: Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Youth Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Mixed-Methods Study to Inform Policy and Programs* (2017-2020, US\$1.5 million, Co-Investigator, lead for Ethiopia and Uganda case studies).
- *IDRC: Active engagement and resilience to political violence among young people in Zimbabwe (2017-2019).* A mixed-methods study on young people's socio-economic initiatives build resilience against political violence. (\$300,000 Co- investigator).
- *Mastercard Foundation: Matasa fellows' network:* co-convenor of the network of African early career scholars of youth employment (2018).
- *Swiss Development Agency (2017): Youth, local governance and peacebuilding.* (PI, £13,000)
- *IDS-SDC Collaboration on Poverty, Politics and Participation* (2014-2017). The Collaboration is a framework for policy research in collaboration with the Swiss Development Cooperation. (Principal Investigator, GBP £ 500,000.-)
- *DFID Accountable Grant, Youth Employment theme* (2015-2016): a study on the linkages between economic agency and political agency among youth in contexts of violence. (GBP 50,000.--)

Teaching:

- Co-convenor of the MA module 'Power, and Social Perspectives on Development' (2014- 2021): module design, lecturing, seminars; supervision of essays, term papers, and fieldwork practice; and assessments; dissertation supervision and marking.
- Co-Convenor of the MA course Power, Participation and Social Change (2017-2019).
- PhD supervision: I currently supervise 1 PhD candidates, and supervised 2 PhDs to completion.
- PhD examination: external examiner of 1 candidate in the UK, 1 in the Netherlands; and internal examiner for 2 candidates at the University of Sussex.
- Guest lecturer, participatory local governance and conflict: UNU-Merit, the Netherlands (2020-2021); The Hague Academy for Local Governance; INCLUDE Knowledge Platform.

Advisory work:

- Irish Aid: Conflict-sensitive approaches to social protection, case study Mozambique (2023).
- Fondation Botnar. Global Learning Partner for the Fondation Botnar' Healthy Cities for Adolescence programme, (2023-2027).
- World Food programme. Addressing young peoples' engagement in violent activities (2021-2023, USD 120,000). Co-investigator and country lead for Mozambique case study.
- INCLUDE Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policy. Promoting meaningful youth engagement for decent employment. (2022, EUR 60,000)
- Lead advisor for the DFID Learning Journey on Youth Employment and Citizenship, a series of workshops and learning outputs for DFID policy advisors (2018), also involving representatives of Danida, Dutch Aid, Irish Aid and USAID.
- Wilton Park Youth Dialogue conference series (2017-2019). Lead intellectual partner for high-level conference series for UK government and development partners on youth, peace, security, and youth employment.

- *Act Alliance: Shrinking Civic space*. Researcher in the multi-country study on the effects of shrinking civic space for development in, lead for the Zimbabwe case study (2018, Co-Investigator).
- *Plan UK: Youth, participation and governance in fragile settings* (2016-2017). A multi-country study on how young people engage in formal and informal processes that address fragility, with case studies in Myanmar, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, and a desk review of programmatic approaches to youth participation in fragile settings. (Principal Investigator, £100,000).

2013 – 2015 Postdoctoral research fellow, Institute of Development Studies, UK

- *Power, Violence, Citizenship and Agency programme* (2013-2015). Lead researcher of the case studies South Sudan and Zimbabwe within the programme. Research coordinator of the overall programme: coordination of its consortium of partners and donors; managing the research uptake strategy and communications; financial management and reporting. (EURO 300,000)
- *Accountable Grant, Addressing and Mitigating Violence theme* (2013-2015): Researcher on two case studies in Kenya, focusing on political violence in Marsabit, and domestic insecurity linked to Al Shabaab. (GBP £ 100,000)

2009-2013 PhD Researcher, Institute of Development Studies, UK

The PhD project comprised the research and thesis, and a series of research uptake activities, including the facilitation of workshops on governance, citizenship and conflict for Dutch development organisations (Hivos, ICCO, PSO) and their partners, the production of a [documentary film](#), blogs and working papers. IDS advisory work on governance, participation and accountability for e.g. Trócaire; Oxfam GB (Strategies for CSOs in authoritarian countries), and the Swiss Development Cooperation.

2008 Senior Programme Officer, Hivos, the Netherlands

Coordination of the Knowledge Programme on Promoting Pluralism. Design of the research programme in collaboration with academics and civil society practitioners, and the design and implementation of knowledge brokering activities and a research uptake strategy.

2007-2008 Policy advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands

Directorate General International Cooperation (DGIS), *Department for Cultural Cooperation, Education and Research*. Programme design and coordination of policy research programmes for Dutch embassies in developing countries. Implementation of knowledge management activities.

AFFILIATIONS

2021	Visiting fellow, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague
2010	Research Associate, Refugee Law Project, Faculty of Law, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Mate, R.; Oosterom, M. and Mpofu, D. (2023) '[Young female traders' quest for viability in Zimbabwe's politicised urban spaces](#)', *Journal of Youth Studies*, DOI: 10.1080/13676261.2023.2248897

Oosterom, M.; Namuggala, V. and Nankindu, P. (2023) '[Workplace sexual harassment as a feature of precarious work in Uganda's agro-processing factories: "Mince your words and watch yourself"](#)', *Development Policy Review* 41.4, DOI: 10.1111/dpr.12695

Oosterom, M. and Nazneen, S. (2023) '[Introduction to special section: Workplace sexual harassment and women's empowerment](#)', *Development Policy Review* 41.4, DOI: 10.1111/dpr.12690

Oosterom, M.A. and S. Gukurume (2022) '[Ruling party patronage, brokerage and contestation at urban markets in Harare](#)', *African Affairs* 121.484: 371–394, DOI:10.1093/afraf/adac017

Oosterom, M.A.; Namuggala, V. and Szyp, C. (2021) '[Family dynamics and implications for young people's 'struggles' in rural areas of post-conflict northern Uganda](#)', *Journal of Disasters* 46.2: 567-586, DOI: 10.1111/disa.12484

Oosterom, M.A.; Pam Sha, D. and Dowd, C. (2021) '[Civil society and Commissions of Inquiry in Plateau State, Nigeria](#)', *Journal of Modern Africa Studies* 49.4: 439-462, DOI:10.1017/S0022278X21000252

Hossain, N. and Oosterom, M.A. (2021) '[The implications of closing civic space for poverty and hunger in the global south](#)', *Global Policy* 12.suppl 5: 59-69, DOI: 10.1111/1758-5899.12979

Sumberg, J.; Flynn, J.; Fox, L.; Mader, P. and Oosterom, M. (2021) 'Africa's "youth employment" crisis is actually a "missing jobs" crisis', *Development Policy Review* 39: 621-643, DOI: 10.1111/dpr.12528

Oosterom, M.A.; Pan Maran, J. and Wilson, S. (2019) '[Building Kachin: Youth and Everyday Action in one of Myanmar's Ethnic States](#)', *Development & Change* 50.6: 1717-1741, DOI: 10.1111/dech.12506

Oosterom, M.A. (2019) 'Youth and social navigation in Zimbabwe's informal economy. "Don't end up on the wrong side".', *African Affairs* 118.472: 485-508

Sumberg, J.; Flynn, J.; Mader, P.; Mwaura, G.; Oosterom, M.A.; Sam-Kpakra, R. and Shittu, A.I. (2019) '[Formal-sector employment and Africa's youth employment crisis: irrelevance or policy priority?](#)', *Development Policy Review* 38.4: 428-440, DOI: 10.1111/dpr.12436

Oosterom, M.A. (2017) 'Gendered (in)security in South Sudan. Masculinities and Hybrid Governance in Imatong state', *Peacebuilding* 5.2: 186-202

Lind, J.; Mutahi, P. and Oosterom, M.A. (2017) "Killing a mosquito with a hammer": Al-Shabaab violence and state security responses in Kenya', *Journal of Peacebuilding* 5.2: 118-135

Oosterom, M.A. and Scott-Villiers, P. (eds.) (2016) 'Introduction: Special Issue on Poverty, Power and Inequality', *IDS Bulletin* 47.5, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Oosterom, M.A. (2016) 'Internal displacement, the camp, and constructions of citizenship', *Journal of Refugee Studies* 29.3: 363-387

Oosterom, M.A. (2016) 'The effects of conflict and displacement on citizen engagement in northern Uganda.', *Conflict, Security and Development* 16.1: 75-101

Oosterom, M.A. (2011) 'Gender and fragile citizenship in Uganda: the case of Acholi women.', *Gender & Development* 19.3: 395-408

Peer Reviewed Research Reports

Oosterom, M. et al. (2022) *The Gendered Price of Precarity: Voicing and Challenging Workplace Sexual Harassment*, IDS Research Report 88, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies, DOI: 10.19088/IDS.2022.030

Oosterom, M.A. and Gukurume, S. (2019) *Managing the 'born-free'. Regime strategies for dealing with Zimbabwe's young generation*, Bergen: Chr. Michelsen Institute

Oosterom, M.A. (2018) *Youth Engagement in the Realm of Local Governance: Opportunities for Peace?*, IDS Working Paper 501, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Hossain, N.; Nazneen, S.; Oosterom, M.A.; Roberts, T.; Shankland, A.; and Schroeder, P. (2018) What does closing civic space mean for development? A literature review and proposed conceptual framework., IDS Working paper, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Hossain, N. et al. (2018) '[Energy Protests in Fragile Settings: The Unruly Politics of Provisions in Egypt, Myanmar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Zimbabwe, 2007-2017](#)', IDS Working Paper 513, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Flynn, J.; Mader, P. and Oosterom, M.A. (2017) *Failing Young People? Addressing the Supply-side Bias and Individualisation in Youth Employment Programming*, IDS Evidence Report 216, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Oosterom, M.A. (2016) *Navigating the violent politics of informal work. A conceptual framework*, IDS Evidence Report 198, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies.

Lind, J.; Oosterom, M.A. and Mutahi, P. (2015) *Tangled Ties. Al Shabaab and changing politics of violence in Kenya*, IDS Evidence Report 130, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Oosterom, M.A. and Pswarayi, L. (2014) *'Being a born-free'. Violence and youth agency in Zimbabwe*, IDS Research Report 79, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Oosterom, M.A. (2014) *'It moves as quickly as bushfire'. Gendered violence and insecurity in South Sudan*, IDS Research report 78, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Scott-Villiers, P.; Ondicho, T.; Lubaale, G.; Ndugu, D.; Kabala, N. and Oosterom, M.A. (2014) *Roots and Routes of Political Violence in Kenya's Civil and Political Society: A Case Study of Marsabit County*, IDS Evidence Report, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Book Chapters

Oosterom, M.A. (2021) 'Are rural young people stuck in waithood?', in Sumberg, J. (ed.) *Youth and the rural economy in Africa. Hard work and hazard*, Boston, MA: CAB International.

Sumberg, J.; Flynn, J. and Oosterom, M.A. (2021) 'African rural youth', in Sumberg, J. (ed.) *Youth and the rural economy in Africa. Hard work and hazard*, Boston, MA: CAB International.

Oosterom, M.A. (2022) "Youth and 'everyday peace' in the city of Jos, Nigeria.", in Ebiede, T.M. and Iwilade, A. (eds.) *Youth and non-violence in Africa*, London: Palgrave MacMillen.

Oosterom, M.A. (2019) 'Power and agency in violent settings.', in McGee, R. and Pettit, J. (eds.) *Power, empowerment and social change*, London: Routledge.

Consultancy reports

Lind, J. and Oosterom, M. (forthcoming) 'Addressing young peoples' engagement in violent activities. Lessons and recommendations to strengthen WFP operations.', Rome: World Food Programme.

Sambo, M.; Oosterom, M. and Pereira, C. (forthcoming) 'Addressing young peoples' engagement in violent activities in Mozambique. Lessons and and recommendations to strengthen WFP operations.', Rome: World Food Programme.

Oosterom, M. and Yeboah, T. (2022) [*Promoting youth engagement for decent employment. Addressing the disconnects*](#), Research Report, Leiden: INCLUDE Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies

Mpofu, D.J.; Ndiweni, M.; Moyo, K.; Wadzai, S. and Oosterom, M. (2022) [*Youth active citizenship for decent jobs. A Handbook for policy and practice.*](#), Brighton and Harare: Institute of Development Studies and Research and Advocacy Unity

Oosterom, M.A. (2018) *Youth employment & citizenship: problematizing theories of change*, K4D Emerging Issues Report, Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies

Oosterom, M.A. (2018) *Shrinking civic space and its effect on selected SDGs in Zimbabwe*, Report for the Act Alliance

Oosterom, M.A.; Wignall, R. and Wilson, S. (2018) [*Youth action in fragile settings*](#), London and Brighton: Plan International UK and Institute of Development Studies

Chari, A.; Flynn, J.; Mader, P.; Mwaura, G.; Oosterom, M.; Roelen, K.; Sam-Kpakra, R.; Ibrahim Shittu, A.; and Sumberg, J. (2017) [*Barriers to Job Creation and Labour Market Access for Youth in Sub-Saharan Africa*](#), Report for DFID's Business Environment Reform Facility, London: DFID (BERF).

Policy briefings

Oosterom, M. and Gukurume, S. (2023) '[The risk of authoritarian renewal in Zimbabwe: Understanding ZANU-PF youth](#)', *Policy brief*, Bergen: Chr. Michelsen Institute.

Oosterom, M. *et al.* (2022) 'Tackling Workplace Sexual Harassment', *IDS Policy Briefing* 195, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies, DOI: 10.19088/IDS.2022.026

Oosterom, M.A. and McGee, R. (2014) 'The Underside of Political Settlements. Violence in Kenya and Egypt', *IDS Policy Briefing*, Issue 62, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Oosterhoff, P.; Mills, E.A.; & Oosterom, M.A. (2014) 'Addressing Sexual Violence in and Beyond the War Zone', *IDS Rapid Response Briefing*, Issue 7, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Other (news pieces, blogs)

Oosterom, M. (2022) '[Jobs Will Not Empower Women If We Don't Address Sexual Harassment](#)', IPS Opinion Piece: 28 June

Conference papers

Oosterom, M.A. (2021) 'Authoritarian regime strategies and market politics in Zimbabwe', DSA, June

Oosterom, M.A. and Aalen, L. (2021) 'Youth regime dynamics in Africa's liberation regimes', panel, EADI, July

Oosterom, M.A. (2019) 'Youth and resilience to political violence in Zimbabwe: the role of family, peers, and social institutions', European Associations for African Studies, Edinburgh, June

Oosterom, M.A. (2017) 'Ambiguous agency and the spectrum of violence to non-violence', European Associations for African Studies, Basel, June

Oosterom, M.A. (2016) 'Youth navigating the violent politics in the informal economy in Zimbabwe', Development Studies Association Conference, Oxford, 12-14 September

Oosterom, M.A. (2012) 'Citizen engagement in post-conflict situations', Sheffield Institute for International Development's Annual Conference, 16-17 March

Oosterom, M.A. (2013) 'Citizen engagement in post-conflict situations', PhD Conference on International Development at the University of East Anglia, 19-20 September

Oosterom, M.A. (2013) 'A matter of catching up? Citizen engagement in northern Uganda', The World Conference on Humanitarian Studies, Istanbul, 24-27 October

Oosterom, M.A. (2014) 'Gender and insecurity in South Sudan', African Studies Association UK Conference, University of Sussex, September

Oosterom, M.A. (2014) 'Youth agency and violence in Zimbabwe', African Studies Association UK Conference, University of Sussex, September