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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Research Officer

NATIONALITY: Dutch

LANGUAGES: Dutch, English, Spanish

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: Private sector development, International trade and investments, Employment, Participation in economic decision-making.

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: Latin America (e.g., Bolivia, Guatemala), Sub-Saharan Africa (e.g., Sierra Leone), Southeast Asia (e.g., Indonesia)

OVERVIEW

Evert-jan Quak is researcher at the Business, Markets, and the State cluster, with an interest in trade relations, business development, value chains, employment, and workers participation and representation. Most of this research work corresponds with food and agriculture sectors in low-and middle-income countries. He is a particular interest in the intersections between international trade and climate justice. He has previous experience conducting research on development outcomes of trade and international investments, private sector development interventions and their development impact on employment and food security, and policy responses to support businesses during the Covid-19 pandemic. He combined this work with the former Knowledge for Development programme (K4D), supporting learning and the use of evidence to improve the impact of development policy and programmes for the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). He has previous experience working with NGOs, policymakers and researchers as a knowledge broker and consultant.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2002 **Postgraduate in Journalism**
Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

1995 – 2000 **M.A. in International Economy & Economic Geography**
Utrecht University, the Netherlands

1993 – 1994 **Propaedeutic Degree in Social Geography**
Utrecht University, the Netherlands

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2018 – PRESENT **Research Officer, Institute of Development Studies, UK**
Involved in research projects for the Business, Markets, and the State cluster. Previously also as researcher in the K4D programme.

2015 – 2018 **Self-employed Knowledge Broker and Research Editor, UK**
Projects for the Food & Business Knowledge Platform, The Broker, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), mainly on social entrepreneurship, employment, trade, and ICTs for agriculture.

2013 – 2014 **Knowledge Broker at the Food & Business Knowledge Platform, the Netherlands**

Responsible for knowledge opportunities on the topics of “partnerships”, “regional trade” and “entrepreneurship”.

2011 – 2014

Knowledge Broker at The Broker, the Netherlands

Author and coordinator of in-depth knowledge dossiers on Inequality, Social Entrepreneurship, Employment, Middle Class.

2012 – 2013

Editor-in-Chief for ICT Update Magazine, CTA, the Netherlands

Responsible for managing, editing, and planning content for upcoming issues.

2005 – 2012

Self-employed Researcher and Consultant, the Netherlands

Research and consultancy projects for e.g., ICCO-cooperation, SOMO, Corporate Europe Observatory and the Fair, Green and Global Alliance.

2010

Policy Advisor Economic Justice at ICCO, the Netherlands

Lobby and advocacy work on trade and investment agreements, multi-stakeholder initiatives, and Corporate Social Responsibility for Dutch based development NGO.

2002 – 2010

Freelance Journalist, the Netherlands

In the Dutch Parliament for PM magazine, author of the book “Het onzichtbare label” (KIT Publishers, 2009), and several reportages from Bolivia, Guatemala and Sierra Leone for Dutch magazines.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Quak, E.; Nelson, E.; Marin, A.; Bloom, G.; Barker, T. and Balasubramaniam, P. (2023) *Towards Digital Transformation for Universal Health Coverage*, Mutual Learning for Mixed Health Systems, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies, DOI: [10.19088/CC.2023.005](https://doi.org/10.19088/CC.2023.005) (accessed 22 November 2023)

Saha, A.; Carreras, M. and Quak, E. (2022) *Investigating Initial Policy Responses to COVID-19: Evidence Across 59 Countries*, *International Review of Applied Economics*, DOI: [10.1080/02692171.2022.2130187](https://doi.org/10.1080/02692171.2022.2130187) (accessed 22 November 2023)

Thorpe, J.; Odame, H.; Quak, E. and Ayele, S. (2022) *Covid-19: Shaping the Nexus between State-Business Relations and Global Value Chains: The Case of Horticulture in Kenya*, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies, DOI: [10.19088/IDS.2022.029](https://doi.org/10.19088/IDS.2022.029) (accessed 22 November 2023)

Quak, E. and Barenboim, I. (2022) *Female Entrepreneurship and Informality in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: What Have We Learned So Far?* MUVA Paper Series, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 November 2023)

Thorpe, J.; Saha, A. and Quak, E. (2022) *National Governments Support Measures for Small Business During the Covid-19 Pandemic*, GAIN Working Paper Series 24, Geneva: Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (accessed 22 November 2023)

Quak, E. (2021) *The Link between Demography and Labour Markets in Sub-Saharan Africa*, K4D Helpdesk Report 911, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 November 2023)

Saha, A.; Quak, E. and Carreras, M. (2020) *An Assessment of the Impact of Covid-19 Responses on MSMEs in the Informal Sector: Evidence from Commonwealth Countries in Africa*, London: The Commonwealth (accessed 22 November 2023)

Quak, E. and Flynn, J. (2019) *Private Sector Development Interventions and Better-Quality Job Creation for Youth in Africa: Linking Business Performance with Productivity Growth and Sustainable Job Creation*, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 November 2023)

Woodhill, J and Quak, E. (2019) *Capturing the Economic Potential of Food Systems for the Poor*, K4D Emerging Issues Report 22, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 November 2023)

Quak, E. (2019) *Linking Participation with Economic Advancement: PEKKA Case Study*, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (accessed 22 November 2023)

Thorpe, J.; Quak, E. and Gaventa, J. (2019) *Building Participatory and Inclusive Institutions: Bringing Meaningful Participation into Economic Decision-Making*, paper presented at UNTFSSSE International Conference, Geneva, 25-26 June (accessed 22 November 2023)

Quak, E. (2017) *Actions Between Profit-Making and Aid: Improving Social Entrepreneurship for Food Security*, The Hague: Food & Business Knowledge Platform (accessed 22 November 2023)