

Institute of Development Studies
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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Postgraduate Researcher at IDS, Senior Analyst at SET Advisory

NATIONALITY: Portuguese

LANGUAGES: Portuguese (native), English (native), Spanish (Advanced)

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: Social and Solidarity Economy, African Development, Integrity and ESG Due Diligence

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: Lusophone countries

OVERVIEW

Ricardo is a postgraduate Researcher at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), participating in the Business, Markets and States, as well as Participation, Inclusion, and Social Change research clusters. He is currently undertaking research on the role the social and solidarity economy as a catalyst for development and as an alternative model of organizing economic relations within society, under the supervision of Dr Jo Howard and Dr Anabel Marín. His research is devoted to a comparative study of social and solidarity economy initiatives in Portugal and Cape Verde. He is particularly interested in the potential of the social and solidarity economy to emancipate social actors from profit-maximization models and towards participatory democracy, redistributive justice, and sustainability.

Since 2022 he has worked in the due diligence space and currently holds the position of Senior Analyst at SET Advisory, a due diligence firm based in London. In his work, Ricardo provides institutions, law firms, consumer goods manufacturers, and international consultancies with integrity, political and market risk investigations, as well as due diligence investigations and analyses in the ESG and art spaces.

Ricardo holds an MSc in Development Studies from The London School of Economics and Political Science with a specialism in African Development. His master's dissertation, titled "Locating African Agency in Chinese Resource-financed Infrastructure Deals: A Case Study Comparing Angola and Ghana", entailed a comparative case study with the aim of identifying the factors that enhance African agency in resource-financed infrastructure lending to explain why some countries have more success at achieving better terms and local linkages outcomes in resource-for-infrastructure deals. He also holds a Bachelor's (Licenciatura Bologna) in Languages, Literature and Culture from Universidade de Lisboa.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2024 - Ongoing

Ph.D. in Development Studies

Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom

- Undertaking research on the role of on the role of the social and solidarity economy as a catalyst for development and as an alternative model of organizing economic relations within society, under the supervision of Dr Jo Howard and Dr Anabel Marín

2020 - 2021

MSc in Development Studies, with a specialism in African Development

London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom

- Conducted dissertation research on Chinese resource-for-infrastructure loans to African countries and their respective local linkages impacts on local procurement, employment, and development, titled “Locating African Agency in Chinese Resource-financed Infrastructure Deals: A Case Study Comparing Angola and Ghana”

2016 – 2019

Bachelor’s (Licenciatura Bologna) in Languages Literature and Culture
Faculdade de Letras, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

Oct 2023 – PRESENT

Senior Analyst – Integrity/ESG Due Diligence – SET Advisory, United Kingdom

- Providing institutions, law firms, consumer goods manufacturers, and international consultancies with Integrity Due Diligence, ESG due diligence, Art Due Diligence, corporate investigations, business intelligence, political risk assessments, and advisory services
- Specialised in conducting independent research into corporate entities and individuals across multiple sectors in Portuguese and Spanish-speaking countries and regions
- Skilled at collaborating with an extensive investigatory network in Africa, the Middle East and Gulf Area, Western Europe, and Latin America

Mar 2022 – Oct 2023

Analyst – Risk and Business Intelligence, SET Advisory, United Kingdom

- Conducted due diligence research and data analysis with a focus on political and business risk in Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries, namely Lusophone African countries and Latin American countries
- Developed on average 6 reports per month in business risk, asset tracing, political risk projects
- Worked collaboratively in a team and organized report-writing and task management in various projects
- Liaised with clients and external contractors across multiple communication channels

Sep 2021 – Mar 2022

Graduate Intern – London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom

- Supported course administrators in organizing in-class assignments and assessments, including invigilating exams
- Organized and scheduled meetings between associate programme directors and students as well as organized meetings with PhD applicants and prospective faculty supervisors
- Contributed to attendance register taking and inputting for various courses, assisted with in-person and zoom set up for hybrid teaching/liquid learning, and handled admissions and general queries from current and prospective students

Jul 2019 – Apr 2020

Research Assistant – Boston University, based in Lisbon, Portugal

- Conducted 150 hours of research in historical archives, in search of interviews conducted and transcribed by Henrique Dias de Carvalho during his expedition to the Lunda Empire from 1884-1888. Research was conducted at the behest of Dr John Thornton
- Transcribed and annotated relevant findings

EXPERIENCE AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Lectures given in Cape Verdean History – Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

- Invited by Dr. Maria Manuel Torrão on two occasions to give a lecture for the History of Cape Verde undergraduate module at the Faculdade de Letras (February 20th, 2020, and March 2nd, 2021) and presented the findings of a research paper “A Cape Verdean oligarchy: the ‘Branços da Terra’ and the local power dynamics in Santiago in the eighteenth century”, authored as a student taking this module in 2019