

RODRIGO DEIANA

Washington, DC (USA) • +1.202.873.6863 • +39.340.286.4166 • rdeiana87@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Economist with 13+ years of international experience leading policy and strategic initiatives to accelerate economic development in emerging markets. I have managed multidisciplinary teams in large international organizations and consulting projects, delivering data-driven insights that have shaped reforms in trade, industrialization, private-sector growth, and financial development. I combine analytical rigor with persuasive communication and strong stakeholder management to deliver impact in complex, cross-cultural and demanding working environments. I am fluent in English, Spanish, French, and Italian, and conversational in Chinese; proficient in Microsoft Office and Stata, and with working knowledge of R and GIS software. With a proven track record in managing complex projects, delivering data-driven insights, and mobilizing significant financial resources, I am committed to advancing sustainable economic growth, promoting good governance and policy-making, and fostering international cooperation.

EXPERIENCE

WORLD BANK

Washington DC, USA

Development Research Group – Unit for Macroeconomics, Trade and Competitiveness

Consultant

Dec. 2024 – present

- Leading the data analysis for a flagship World Bank report on industrial policies and development, becoming the focal point for industrial policy data queries.
- Coordinating inputs from other consultants to prepare the report's data replication package and production material.

VANGUARD ECONOMICS

Kigali, RWANDA

Economic consulting firm providing strategic and policy advice to governments and firms in developing countries

Senior Economic Expert

June 2024 – Dec. 2024

- Managed a cost-benefit analysis exercise and advised the European Union on the viability and impact of a \$4 million investment to boost agricultural exports in Uganda. Supported high-level stakeholder relations resulting in the approval of the project with safeguards to ensure continuous funding and value-for-money guarantees. Supervised two analysts working on the financial analysis component.
- Led the research and technical analysis for Rwanda's trade policy review as part of a \$31+ million USAID project aimed at improving East Africa's trading environment. Presented weekly to USAID and Government officials on methodologies and findings, providing recommendations – including a strategic roadmap for the entire project lifecycle – to reduce international shipping time and costs by up to 30%.

UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (UN DESA)

New York, USA

Financing for Sustainable Development Office, the UN Division for the global agenda to finance the Sustainable Development Goals

Economic Affairs Officer (P4 Level)

Dec. 2022 – May 2024

- Authored chapters for the annual flagship Financing for Sustainable Development Report, coordinating inputs from 60+ agencies.
- Presented to senior country delegates on how expanding access to finance for the private sector can contribute to achieving the United Nation's sustainable development agenda.
- Supported inter-governmental negotiations on global taxation, economic governance, and sovereign debt, culminating in UN resolutions and global agreements (e.g. the 2024 Pact for the Future).
- Co-led the organization of the 2025 International Conference on Financing for Development by preparing concept notes, fundraising material and helping mobilize over \$1 million.

WORLD BANK

Washington DC, USA

Unit for Urbanization and Land Resilience, and Unit for Macroeconomics, Trade and Industry

Economist/Consultant

Nov. 2019 – Dec. 2022

- Led data modelling and analysis using econometric tools to tailor policy and strategic recommendations to governments.
- Co-authored reports and papers covering global and country-specific issues, generating policy discussions within governments.
- Presented findings and recommendations based on complex analysis to Ministers and other senior government officials, prompting reforms and policy shifts in trade negotiations, business regulations, public service delivery, and urban planning.

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (OECD)

Paris, FRANCE

OECD Development Centre, Africa Desk

Consultant

Jan. 2022 – June 2022

- Created and led a research project on e-commerce, digital trade and cross-border payments in Africa, organizing a high-level panel discussion with government officials and private sector representatives.
- Published an OECD blog post on creating economic resilience through regional value chains in Africa.

Junior Policy Analyst

Nov. 2016 – Oct. 2019

- Designed multiple projects as part of the core research and advisory team on Africa, analyzing data, authoring and publishing briefings and flagship reports, and managing interns and external consultants.
- Created a work stream on infrastructure financing, raising approx. \$800k for research projects and panel discussion series.
- Managed relations with donor countries and institutions, raising over \$2 million for a new flagship project with the African Union.
- Spearheaded Rwanda's accession to the OECD Development Centre, and the Africa Finance Corporation's accreditation as donor organization to access concessional funding for development projects.

INDEPENDENT ECONOMIC CONSULTANT**Various locations***Collaboration as freelancer with think tanks and consulting firms in Rwanda and South Africa*

Feb. 2016 – Oct. 2016

- Led an exploratory field research project to map informal cross-border trade flows along the Rwanda-DRC border; managed one junior analyst and submitted findings for a bid which was awarded a \$5 million contract by a consortium of donors.
- Created a guide to regional economic analysis, procedures and negotiations for South Sudanese government officials.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION (IFC)**Kigali, RWANDA***World Bank Group agency tasked with facilitating private sector involvement in developing economies***Consultant**

Dec. 2015 – Oct. 2016

- Led a review of Rwanda's agricultural sector, proposing legal and market solutions to attract private capital and modernize the sector. Authored and presented a report to the Minister of Agriculture, prompting the Government to implement a set of reforms.

GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA**Kigali, RWANDA***Ministry of East African Community Affairs, coordinating all regional integration aspects***Economist (ODI Fellow)**

Oct. 2013 – Oct. 2015

- Established a private sector survey exercise to deliver data and findings to the Minister of Finance, optimizing Rwanda's requests for import duty exemptions to support local businesses and reducing complaints from neighboring countries on the matter.
- Created and conducted a training program to build research and data skills within the Ministry, attended by all technical experts.
- Coordinated and set priorities for 5 countries during trade negotiations, obtaining key concessions from the European Union.

EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK**Frankfurt, GERMANY***Programme Office for the T2S project, a pan-European settlement platform for payments and securities***Market Infrastructure Specialist & Trainee**

Aug. 2012 – Sept. 2013

- Coordinated the program of work for the largest governance group of the T2S project and supervised 3 junior colleagues.

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**Geneva, SWITZERLAND***WTO Task Force on the Financial Crisis & Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation***Trainee**

Sept. 2011 – Mar. 2012

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**College Park MD, USA****PhD in Public Policy (part-time)**

Ongoing

- Dissertation work in progress, focusing on the impact of industrial policy and international trade policy on developing country economies and on private sector behavior.
- All course and exam requirements completed, including advanced graduate courses in econometrics & data visualization, political economy, microeconomics, and qualitative research methods.
- Student-affiliate of the Maryland Population Research Center.

BARCELONA SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**Barcelona, SPAIN***Master in International Trade, Finance, and Development*

2010 – 2011

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM**Nottingham, UK***Bachelor (with Honours) in International Economics*

2006 – 2009

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

- “Regional integration and extensive margins of export: The case of Rwanda's accession to the East African Community”, in *progress* (with T. Nguyen-Quoc and E. Saint-Martin).
- “Africa's demographic growth: which economic implications for labour markets?”, in Delauney and Guengant (eds.) (2019), *Le dividende démographique en Afrique subsaharienne*, South-North Monographs, no. 9, Panthéon-Sorbonne University (with A. Minsat).
- “Financing Infrastructure in Africa”, in EIB (2018), *Banking in Africa: Delivering on Financial Inclusion, Supporting Financial Stability* (with D. Ashiagbor, A. Kappeler, A. Minsat, T. Nguyen-Quoc).
- “Africa's Multi-Speed Growth Prospects: Diverging Policy Options?”, in G. Carbone (ed.) (2018), *A vision of Africa's future: Mapping change, transformations and trajectories towards 2030*, ISPI (with A. Minsat and T. Nguyen-Quoc).