

## LOUISE FOX, Ph.D

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Louise Fox is an experienced development economist who specializes in strategies for employment creation, opportunity expansion, economic empowerment, and poverty reduction. She has advised governments in the developed and developing world, international organizations, and philanthropic and non-profit organizations on problem diagnosis, strategies for results, and outcome measurement. She held full-time positions at USAID (as Chief Economist) and at the World Bank. She is currently affiliated with the African Growth Initiative at the Brookings Institution. She was previously affiliated with the Overseas Development Institute, where she led a major research project, and the University of California, Berkeley. Louise has published in the areas of inclusive growth, structural transformation, youth employment, the political economy of poverty reduction, gender and women's economic empowerment, employment, labor markets, and labor regulation, pension reform, reform of child welfare systems, social protection, effective public expenditures in the social sectors, and female-headed households and child welfare. Her most recent book was *Youth Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa*, published by the World Bank in 2014.  
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### EXPERIENCE

#### Current positions:

- **Nonresident Senior Fellow, African Growth Initiative, Global Economy and Development, The Brookings Institution**
- **Independent Consulting Development Economist**

#### 2016-2019

- **Chief Economist, US Agency for International Development, Washington D.C.**

As USAID's Chief Economist, responsible for:

- (i) providing economic advice to management across the agency;
- (ii) leading the professional development of the Agency's cadre of economists and developing a community of practice;
- (iii) working with other Agency professionals to encourage and improve evidence-based decision making; and
- (iv) undertaking special studies of importance for new areas of programming.

*Special projects* included: (a) development of new Agency strategic framework for employment creation programming, and (b) advice on youth employment strategies for poor and rural areas.

#### 2013-2016:

- **Visiting Professor, Masters in Development Practice Program, University of California, Berkeley, CA.**
- **Independent Consulting Development Economist.** Clients included: International Labor Organization, UNWomen, Mastercard Foundation, ACDI/VOCA, IFPRI.
- **Senior Research Associate, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London, UK.** Developed framework for understanding gender-inclusive structural economic transformation, and applied the framework in Gates Foundation-funded project on inclusive rural transformation.

1984-2013: The World Bank, Washington, D.C. (Final position: Lead Economist)

#### *Career highlights at the World Bank*

**2003 - 2013      *Sub-Saharan Africa Region***  
***Office of the Chief Economist for Sub-Saharan Africa and Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Departments***

As Lead Economist and Poverty Advisor for Eastern and Southern Africa, responsible for ensuring the quality of country and subregional analysis and advisory activities on the causes and consequences of poverty, and the impact of country poverty reduction strategies; lead author of Africa Regional Youth Employment Flagship report and regional reports on employment and scaling up poverty reduction ; developed new products used by the Bank and other donors for country level analysis and advisory activities; managed and mentored poverty and labor market specialists; led key analytical work, including poverty, social, and gender assessments and impact analysis of policies and projects; served on the editorial board for World Bank publications.

**1990 - 1998, 2000 – 2003      *Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union and East Asia Regions***

Lead/Senior Economist for transition economies, focused on employment, social security, poverty reduction and safety nets; responsible for leading or contributing to country studies for China, Mongolia, Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria, Hungary, and the Baltic States; developed and managed innovative projects on social insurance reform and deinstitutionalization of children and vulnerable groups; task manager of joint UNICEF-World Bank regional program on preventing the institutionalization of children and vulnerable groups in Eastern Europe and Central Asia; author or contributor to regional studies on transition from socialism. Resident in Beijing, China, 2001-2003.

**1998 - 2000      *Lead Pension Specialist and Deputy Chief Economist in the global Human Development Network*** responsible for identifying and disseminating world wide best practice pension and social sector policy reform, design, and implementation.

***Other highlights***

- Selected as member of the team which prepared The World Bank's landmark study, *Averting the Old Age Crisis* (see publications below);
- Frequent lecturer, World Bank Institute courses ;
- Six month assignment as assistant to managing directors on operational issues,
- In 1990, was selected through international and with-in Bank competition to first World Bank team for social sectors in transition economies
- Received multiple awards at Vice Presidential level; nominated 5 times for President's Award for Excellence

**Other experience**

2001-2002      Visiting Professor, Chinese Center for Economic Research, Beijing University  
1998-2000      Invited Lecturer, University of Maastricht, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration  
1977-1984      Various consulting assignments at US research firms; Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant, Vanderbilt University; Dissertation research supported by World Bank (1980-1982).

**EDUCATION**

***Executive Development program***, Harvard/INSEAD/Stanford, 1998-99

***Ph.D. (Economics)***, Vanderbilt University, 1982

***B. A. (International Relations, Honors)*** University of California (Berkeley), 1977

## PUBLICATIONS

(see <https://ideas.repec.org/f/pfo261.html>)

### **Books**

Filmer, Deon and Louise Fox, *Youth Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa* (2014). World Bank: Washington D.C. (available at [www.worldbank.org/africa/youthemploymentreport](http://www.worldbank.org/africa/youthemploymentreport))

Fox Louise, Lucrecia Santibañez, Vy Nguyen, and Pierre André. (2012). *Education Reform in Mozambique: Lessons and Challenges*. World Bank: Washington D.C. (Dimensions in Development series)

Fox, Louise (2008). *Beating the Odds: Sustaining Inclusion in a Growing Economy – A Poverty Gender and Social Assessment for Mozambique*. World Bank: Washington DC. (Winner of Africa Region Chief Economist's Award for Excellence, December, 2007.)

Fox, Louise and Melissa Gaal (2008). *Working Out of Poverty: Job Creation and the Quality of Growth in Africa*. World Bank: Washington DC. (Dimensions in Development series)

Fox, Louise and Robert Liebenthal, (eds.) (2006). *Attacking Africa's Poverty: Experience from the ground*. Washington D.C. World Bank.

Holzman, Stiglitz, Fox, James, and Orzag, (eds) *New Ideas About Old Age Security*, The World Bank Washington, D.C. (2001.)

World Bank (1994). *Averting the Old Age Crisis: Policies to Protect the Old and Promote Growth*. Oxford University Press, New York. (contributing author)

### **Articles and Working Papers**

Fox, Louise (2019). "Economic participation of rural youth: what matters?" IFAD Research Series Working Paper # 46. Rome: ISBN 978-92-9072-963-1.

Michael Dolislager, Thomas Reardon, Aslihan Arslan, Louise Fox, Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, Christine Sauer, David Tschirley (2019). "Youth agrifood system employment in developing countries: a gender-differentiated spatial approach". IFAD Research Series Working Paper # 43. Rome: ISBN 978-92-9072-960-0

Fox, Louise & Kaul, Upaasna, (2018). "The evidence is in : how should youth employment programs in low-income countries be designed?", Policy Research Working Paper Series 8500, The World Bank.

Fox, Louise (2017). "Africa's Inclusive Growth Challenge: Reducing Deprivation and Creating Jobs", ch. 3 in *Africa Reset: A New Way Forward*, Ahlers and Kohli, eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Fox, Louise & Romero, Carolina, (2017). "In the mind, the household, or the market? Concepts and measurement of women's economic empowerment," Policy Research Working Paper Series 8079, The World Bank.

Fox, Louise, Alun H. Thomas & Cleary Haines, (2017). "Structural Transformation in Employment and Productivity - What Can Africa Hope For?," IMF Departmental Papers / Policy Papers 17/02, International Monetary Fund.

Bridges, Sarah, Louise Fox, Alessio Gaggero, Trudy Owens, (2017). "Youth Unemployment and Earnings in Africa: Evidence from Tanzanian Retrospective Data," *Journal of African Economies*, Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE), vol. 26(2), pages 119-139.

Fox, Louise and Thomas Pave Sohnesen, (2016). "Household Enterprises and Poverty Reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa," *Development Policy Review*, Overseas Development Institute, vol. 34(2), pages 197-221, March.

Fox, Louise (2016). "Gender, Economic Transformation and Women's Economic Empowerment in Tanzania". ODI Working Paper. <http://set.odi.org/gender-and-economic-transformation/> March.

Fox, Louise, Lemma W. Senbet and Witness Simbanegavi (2016) "Youth Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa: Challenges, Constraints, and Opportunities". *Journal of African Economies*, Vol 25 Supplement 1, March.

Fox, Louise and Alun Thomas (2016). "A Diagnostic of Youth Employment Challenges in Sub-Saharan Africa". *Journal of African Economies* Vol 25 Supplement 1, March

Louise Fox, (2016). "Africa's inclusive growth challenge: Reducing deprivation and creating jobs," Papers Presented at Global Meetings of the Emerging Markets Forum 2016, Emerging Markets Forum.

Fox, Louise (2015). "Will Women in Low Income Countries Get Lost in Transformation?" ODI Working Paper. <http://set.odi.org/gender-and-economic-transformation/> October.

World Bank (2015). *The Spirit of Boldness: Lessons from the Adolescent Girls Initiative*. Washington DC: World Bank (lead author).

Fox, Louise (2015). "Are African Households Heterogeneous Agents? Stylized Facts on Patterns of Consumption, Employment, Income and Earnings for Macroeconomic Modelers, IMF Working Paper Series 15/102.

Fox, Louise, Alun Thomas, Cleary Haines, and Jorge Huerta Munoz (2013). "Africa's Got Work to Do: Employment Prospects in the New Century." IMF Working Paper 13-201, International Monetary Fund, Washington, DC.

Fox, Louise and Ana Maria Oveido (2013) "Institutions and Job Growth in African Manufacturing: Does Employment Protection Regulation Matter?" *Journal of African Economies* 2013 22: 616-650

Fox, Louise and Obert Pimhidzai, (2013) "Different Dreams, Same Bed: Collecting, Using, and Interpreting Employment Statistics in Sub-Saharan Africa - The Case of Uganda." Policy Research Working Paper 6436. World Bank, Washington D.C. (Forthcoming, *Journal of Development Studies*).

Fox, Louise, and Thomas Pave Sohnesen. (2013). "Household enterprises in Mozambique : key to poverty reduction but not on the development agenda ?" Policy Research Working Paper No. 6570. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Fox, Louise and Thomas Sohnesen, (2012). "Household Enterprise in Sub-Saharan Africa, - Why they matter for growth, jobs and livelihoods." Policy Research Working Paper no. 6184, Washington D.C.: World Bank.

Fox, Louise and Obert Pimhidzai.(2011) "Is Informality Welfare-Enhancing Structural Transformation? Evidence from Uganda". Forthcoming, *World Development*.

Kweka, Josaphat, and Louise Fox. (2011). "The Household Enterprise Sector in Tanzania: Why It Matters and Who Cares?" Policy Working Paper No. 5882. World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Fox, Louise and Ana Maria Oveido (2008). "Institutions and Labor Market Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa", Policy Research Working Paper 4721. The World Bank, Washington D.C.

Fox, Louise and Ana Maria Oveido (2008) "Are Skills Rewarded in Sub-Saharan Africa? Determinants of Wages and Productivity in the Manufacturing Sector." Policy Research Working Paper 4688, The World Bank, Washington D.C.

Fox, Louise, Rui Benfica and Melissa Sekkel (2008). "Halving the Poverty Rate by 2015" in *Post-Stabilization Economics in Sub-Saharan Africa: Lessons from Mozambique* edited by Jean A. P. Clement and Shanaka Jayanath Pereis, Washington DC: International Monetary Fund.

*Job Creation in Mozambique: Is Labor Law Reform the Answer?* (2006) Poverty and Social Impact Analysis prepared by a Team from DNEAP/Ministry of Planning and Development/Mozambique (Channing Arndt, Fausto Mafambissa, and Sheila Samuel) and PREM/World Bank (Louise Fox, Jorge Abache, Rui Benfica, and Melissa Sekkel), November 2006. (team leader for project)

Mukandala, Rwekaza, Louise Fox and Robert Liebenthal. (2006). "The Political Economy of Pro-Poor Policies in Africa: lessons from the Shanghai conference Case Studies" in Fox, Louise and Robert Liebenthal, (eds.) (2006) *Attacking Africa's Poverty: Experience from the ground*. Washington D.C.: World Bank.

Fox, Louise, (2002). "Safety Nets in Transition Economies: A Primer Paper" World Bank, Social Protection Primer series # 036, available on [www.worldbank.org/safety\\_nets](http://www.worldbank.org/safety_nets).

Fox Louise, and Yaohui Zhao, (2002). "Workers in a Globalizing China: Outcomes and Issues." Processed; input to World Bank study on China's entry in WTO.

Fox, Louise and Ragnar Gotestam, (2002). "Redirecting Resources to Community-Based Services – A Concept Paper" Social Protection Discussion paper #311, available on [www.worldbank.org/safety\\_nets](http://www.worldbank.org/safety_nets).

Fox, Louise and Edward Palmer, (2001). "Pension Reform in Europe in the 90's and Lessons for Latin America" ECLA Working Paper, Santiago, Chile.

Fox, Louise and Edward Palmer, (2001). "New Approaches to Multi-Pillar Pension Systems: What in the World is Going On?", in Holzman, Stiglitz, Fox, James, and Orzag, (eds) *New Ideas About Old Age Security*, The World Bank Washington, D.C.

Fox, Louise and Edward Palmer, (1999) "Latvia Pension Reform", Social Protection Discussion Paper, Human Development Network, Washington, D.C.

Fox, Louise and Paulette Castel, (1999) "Gender Issues in Pension Reform in the Former Soviet Union", World Bank Policy Research Working Paper.

Fox, Louise (1997) "Pension Reform in Post-Communist Transition Economies", in Joan Nelson, Charles Tilly, and Lee Walker, (editors), *Transforming Post-Communist Political Economies*, Washington D.C. National Academy Press..

Barros, Ricardo, Louise Fox and Rosane Mendonca. (1997). "Female-Headed Households, Poverty, and the Welfare of Children in Urban Brazil." *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 45, No. 2, pp 231-257.

Fox, Louise. (1995). "Can Eastern Europe's Old-Age Crisis be Fixed?" *Finance & Development*, vol. 32, no. (December) 4, pp. 34-37.

Fox, Louise. (1995). "Social Insurance and Social Assistance." In Zeljko Bogetic and Arye L. Hillman, eds., *Financing Government in the Transition: Bulgaria*, pp. 203-223. World Bank, Washington, D.C.

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Bogetic, Zeljko and Louise Fox. (1993). incomes Policy During Stabilization: A Review and Lessons from Bulgaria and Romania. *Comparative Economic Studies* vol. XXXV, No.1. (Spring)

Fox, Louise and Samuel A. Morley. (1993). "Poverty and Adjustment in Brazil." In Michael Lipton and Jacques Van Der Gaag, eds., *Including the Poor*, pp. 463-486. World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Fox, Louise and Samuel A. Morley. (1991). Who Paid the Bill? Adjustment and Poverty in Brazil, 1980-95. World Bank Staff Working Paper 648 (April). Washington, D.C.

Fox, Louise. (1990). Poverty Alleviation in Brazil 1970-87. World Bank Internal Discussion Paper 072 (July). Washington, D.C.

Birdsall, Nancy and Louise Fox. (1985). "Why Males Earn More: Location and Training of Brazilian Schoolteachers", *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, vol. 33, no. 3, (April) pp. 533-556.

Fox, Louise. (1983). Income Distribution in Post-1964 Brazil - New Results. *Journal of Economic History*, vol. 43, no. 1, (March) pp. 261-271.