# CURRICULUM VITAE
# LATIF APAASSONGO IBRAHIM, PhD

***Agricultural Economist | Research Fellow and Lecturer | Quantitative Evaluation | Rural Development***

## 1. Personal Information

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| **1.1 Name** | **Latif Apaassongo Ibrahim, PhD** |
| **1.2 Contact Information** | Institute for Rural Development and Innovation Studies, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana<br>Email: latif.ibrahim@knust.edu.gh ; iblatus@gmail.com<br>Tel: +233(0)551992130 / +233(0)505952990 |
| **1.3 Academic Degrees** | PhD, Agricultural Economics, The University of Tokyo, Japan (2022)<br>MPhil, Agricultural Economics, KNUST, Ghana (2015)<br>BSc, Agricultural Science, KNUST, Ghana (2009) |
| **1.4 Current Position and Institutional Affiliation** | Research Fellow/Lecturer, Institute for Rural Development and Innovation Studies, KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana |
| **1.5 Further Information** | **Date of Birth:** 10th October, 1985; **Place of Birth:** Bolgatanga, Upper East Region Ghana; **Religion:** Islam; **Marital status:** Married, with three children |

## Professional Profile

Agricultural economist and Research Fellow and Lecturer at the Institute for Rural Development and Innovation Studies (IRDIS), KNUST, with more than a decade of experience across research, teaching, consultancy and technical reporting. Holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from the University of Tokyo. Combines econometric analysis with survey design, data management and mixed-methods research to examine agricultural services, food systems, natural resources, and rural livelihoods.

Recent contributions include quantitative analysis and reporting for Ghanaian early-childhood education research; cocoa and livelihood analysis; applied economics teaching; collaborative research proposals; and institutional research procedures. Research interests centre on how institutions, services and innovations influence people's capacity to act and improve livelihood and learning outcomes.

## 2. Education

### 2.1 Academic Degrees and Institutions Attended

| Date | Degree | Institution | Field/Specialization |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2022** | PhD | The University of Tokyo, Japan | Agricultural Economics |
| **2015** | MPhil | Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana | Agricultural Economics |
| **2009** | BSc | Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana | Agricultural Science |

### 2.2 Thesis or Dissertation Title and Advisor(s)

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| **PhD research focus** | **Title:** Restoring Competitiveness in Domestic Food Value Chains in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA): Evidence from Experimental Standardization of Local Rice Quality in Ghana<br>**Advisors:** |

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| | 1. Professor Takeshi Sakurai, Laboratory of Rural Development and Finance, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo<br>2. Professor Towa Tachibana, Graduate School of Social Sciences, Chiba University<br>3. Associate Professor Yurugi Takao, Laboratory of Rural Development and Finance, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo |
| **MPhil research focus** | **Title:** Implications of informal economic groups' responses to formal regulation: a case study of street food vendors in the Kumasi metropolis.<br>**Advisor:**<br>Professor Robert Aidoo<br>Department of Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness and Extension, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana |

### 2.3 Academic Honours, Awards or Scholarships Received

- ✓ **2022:** Best Medalist, Dean's Award for Outstanding Research Achievements, Faculty of Agriculture, The University of Tokyo, Japan.
- ✓ **2016-2019:** MEXT Scholarship for PhD Studies, The University of Tokyo, Japan.
- ✓ **2010-2012:** DANIDA Scholarship for MPhil Studies, KNUST, Ghana.
- ✓ **2005-2009:** FINATRADE Foundation Scholarship for BSc Studies, KNUST, Ghana.

## 3. Professional Experience

### 3.1 Current and Previous Academic Positions

| Date | Position | Institution / Role Summary |
|---|---|---|
| **2024-Present** | Research Fellow/Lecturer | Institute for Rural Development and Innovation Studies, KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana. Research, teaching, statistical analysis, technical reporting, and capacity-building in rural development and applied policy research. |
| **2022-2024** | Freelance Research Consultant, Business Development Analyst, and Language Instructor | Self-employed. Research consultancy, business development analysis, corporate English instruction, and support for international research communication in Japan. |
| **2019-2020** | Teaching/Research Assistant | The University of Tokyo, Japan. Academic support, research assistance, and teaching support in agricultural/resource economics contexts. |
| **2013-2016** | Tutor, Graduate Assistant, and Research Consultant | KNUST, Ghana. Teaching support, field research, data collection, project assistance, and research consultancy. |

### 3.2 Institutional Committee Responsibilities

- ✓ **2026: Member, IRDIS Research, Innovation and Staff Development Fund Committee, KNUST**. Nominated by the Acting Director of the Institute for Rural Development and Innovation Studies (IRDIS) to contribute to the committee draft of the Fund's operating manual, including application, review, disbursement, monitoring and accountability procedures and forms. Manual prepared for committee review and Institute Board approval (September 2026)

- ✓ **2026: Member, Institute Representative, CANR Special Committee on the Proposed College Building Complex, KNUST.** Nominated by the Acting Director of the Institute for Rural Development and Innovation Studies (IRDIS) to represent the Institute on the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Special Committee for the proposed College Building Complex (January 2026).
- ✓ **2026 : Member, CANR Panel for Selection of Beneficiaries, 2025/2026 SONSOL Facility, KNUST.** Appointed to the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources panel responsible for interviewing and selecting beneficiaries of the 2025/2026 SONSOL Facility (June 2026).

**3.3 Selected Research and Evaluation Assignments**

Selected assignments in agricultural economics, rural livelihoods, food systems and education evaluation. Roles and dates refer to personal contributions within the relevant project teams.

- ✓ **May 2024–May 2026:** *Statistical Analyst and Technical Reporter*, The Impact of Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices on Social and Emotional Development in Diverse Early Childhood Classrooms in Ghana. IDRC-supported study. Contributed quantitative analysis and technical reporting; subsequent research development examines parent perspectives, community knowledge and curriculum integration.
- ✓ **June – August 2023::** *Statistical Analyst and Technical Reporter*, Endline Survey/Final Performance Evaluation of the Ghana Agricultural Sector Investment Programme (GASIP). Client: Ministry of Food and Agriculture / IFAD.
- ✓ **August 2022-November 2022:** *Statistical Analyst and Technical Reporter*, Market Systems and Resilience Activity Baseline Survey. Client: ACDI/VOCA-USAID.
- ✓ **March 2015-September 2016:** Principal Investigator, University of Tokyo, Chiba University, and KNUST Joint Rice Retailer Field Experimental Studies on the Development of a Quality-Differentiated Local Rice Retail Market in Ashanti Region.
- ✓ **March 2016-June 2016***: Principal Investigator*, United Nations World Food Programme and METSS-USAID Ghana Joint Case Study on Economic Benefit and Sustainability of Smallholder Maize Farmers in Northern Ghana.
- ✓ **2009-2016:** *Team Member/Research Assistant* on projects in water and sanitation, urban food systems, agricultural production, rural livelihoods, child labour, agricultural commodity certification, and agro-food value chains, in collaboration with AUSAID, USAID, DANIDA, JICA, and IFPRI.

**3.4 Recent Analytical and Technical Contributions**

- ✓ **2025–2026:** Applied analytical work using Stata and R, including survey-data preparation, indicator construction, econometric analysis and technical reporting.
- ✓ **2026:** SIGRA livelihood analysis. Developed workflows for data harmonisation, community comparability, income measures, livelihood diversification and treatment–comparison-group summaries.
- ✓ **September 2026**: SIS MEAL evaluation TOR review. Prepared technical observations on outcome measurement, feasible counterfactuals, safeguarding and the implications of new requirements for available Ghana data. Contributed to SIS Ghana/Accra-team evaluation work and expense accountability.
- ✓ **2026**: Liberia evaluation and survey preparation. Contributed to HELINA I–IV evaluation planning and analytical frameworks, and to I-FaNSI and GPE–KIX enumerator-training and digital survey preparations.
- ✓ **2025:** Cocoa farmer knowledge and child-labour analysis. Analysed knowledge, attitudes and child-labour outcomes; work included index construction, subgroup comparisons and econometric modelling.
- ✓ **2024–2025:** Agricultural infrastructure and food-security research. Secondary analysis of GASIP-related evidence, including food-security, dietary-diversity and treatment-effect estimation work.

### 3.5 Collaborative Research and Proposal Development

- **September 2026**: RURAL-AI Africa EOI, SGCI Supporting STISA 2034 Collaborative Research Call. Coordinated partner documentation, budget alignment and proposal inputs across KNUST IRDIS–RAIL and prospective African partner institutions, including Makerere University, University of Venda and Nigerian partners. EOI submitted; proposed contribution covers evaluation, field systems, data quality and economic analysis.
- **September 2026**: PoVETSA II endline evaluation bid. Contributed to technical-proposal revision, sampling and measurement design. Named as proposed Sampling and Quantitative Evaluation Lead; responsibilities remain subject to appointment.
- **September 2026**: Farm Radio International nature-based-solutions evaluation data-collection call, Ghana. Contributed sampling procedures, staffing and budget inputs to the institutional response.
- **September 2025:** Contributed to a KNUST team proposal submitted to the AI4D-Africa call on the socioeconomic impacts of artificial intelligence.

## 4. Teaching Experience

### 4.1 Teaching and Academic Support

Teaching and academic support experience at KNUST in the following areas:

- **ABM 553:** Business Economics, Department of Agricultural Economics Agribusiness and Extension, KNUST.
- **AGEC 553**: Food and Consumer Economics, Department of Agricultural Economics Agribusiness and Extension, KNUST.
- **AGEC 752:** Research Methodology & Scientific Writing, Department of Agricultural Economics Agribusiness and Extension, KNUST.
- **PKG 153:** Economics of Packaging I, Dept: Wood Science and Technology, KNUST
- **PKG 252** Economics of Packaging II, Dept: Wood Science and Technology, KNUST
- **MPTM 555:** Packaging Economics, Dept: Wood Science and Technology, KNUST

## 5. Publications and Research in Progress

Selected scholarly publications and current manuscript development are listed separately below.

### 5.1 Peer Reviewed Articles

1. Ibrahim, L. A., Robert, A., & James, O. M. (2024). City governance, urban livelihoods, and food security: insights from street food trade in Kumasi, Ghana. Food Security, 16, 1081-1098. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12571-024-01486-5
2. Ibrahim, L. A., Sakurai, T., & Tachibana, T. (2023). Toward higher import substitution: does quality governance matter for uptake and pricing of improved local rice in Ghana? Journal of Agribusiness in Developing and Emerging Economies, 13(4), 520-536. https://doi.org/10.1108/JADEE-08-2021-0197
3. Kassoh, F. S., Ohene-Yankyera, K., Nimoh, F., Apaassongo, I. L., & Bangura, R. M. (2021). Market performance of small ruminants in Kumasi and Tamale of Ghana. American Journal of Economics, 11(3), 84-94.
4. Ibrahim, L. A., Sakurai, T., & Tachibana, T. (2020). Local rice market development in Ghana: Experimental sales of standardized premium quality rice to retailers. Japanese Journal of Agricultural Economics, 22, 118-122. https://doi.org/10.18480/jjae.22.0_118
5. Apaassongo, I. L., Aidoo, R., & Ohene-Yankyera, K. (2016). Securing safe food, order in cities and protected urban livelihoods: Modelling of preference for regulations of informal street food trade in Kumasi. World Development Perspectives, 3, 1-6. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wdp.2016.10.003

6. Sarpong, Y. A., Inkoom, D. K. B., & Apaassongo, I. L. (2015). Discursive institutionalism: Analysis of the forest policy review process of Ghana. American International Journal of Research in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, 2, 198-205.

**5.2 Other Scholarly Work**

- Taylor, M., Ibrahim, L. A., Strait, J., Nyamadi, G., Kim, E., Yosangfo, B., et al. (2011). Understanding the Community Based Participatory Research approach: Case study in Ghana.

## 6. Research Tools and Technical Outputs

Selected contributions to analytical workflows, evaluation guidance and institutional procedures:

- ✓ September 2026: IRDIS Research, Innovation and Staff Development Fund operating manual. Contributed to the committee draft of procedures and forms for applications, review, approval, disbursement, reporting and accountability.
- ✓ September 2026: SIS MEAL Evaluation Revised TOR Observations and Proposal Alignment. Technical advisory document addressing evaluation design, available evidence and revised scope.
- ✓ 2025–2026: Stata and R workflows for data preparation, indicator construction, statistical analysis and formatted results in cocoa, resilience and livelihood studies.
- ✓ 2026: Survey and enumerator-training materials supporting digital data collection, including KoboToolbox/ODK-based workflows.

## 7. Conferences and Research Communication

- ✓ Ibrahim, L. A. & Sarfo-Mensah P. (2026). *Indigenous knowledge integration in curriculum development: GPE/KIX Ghana evidence.* Paper presented at the 2nd High-Level Conference on Scaling Education Initiatives in Emergencies (EiE) in West Africa (ACCELERATE+): Conference on Research Evidence to Scale Education Innovation and Investment in West Africa, Breakout Group 3: Community-Driven Basic Education, Indigenous Knowledge and Early Childhood Education in Fragile Contexts, 29–30 September 2026.
- ✓ Salmawobil, J., Apaassongo, I. L., Boakye Appiah, G., & Aidoo, R. (2025). *Exploring the drivers of cold storage service preferences among sweet pepper farmers in Ghana.* Paper presented at the 8th Annual Conference of the Ghana Association of Agricultural Economists (GAAE), themed "Transforming Agri-Food Systems in Developing Economies through Sustainable Agribusiness Development," Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana, 6–8 November 2025.
- ✓ Salmawobil, J., Apaassongo, I. L., Boakye Appiah, G., & Aidoo, R. (2025). *Factors influencing farmers' willingness to pay for cold storage services in the Upper East Region of Ghana.* Paper presented at the 8th Annual Conference of the Ghana Association of Agricultural Economists (GAAE), themed "Transforming Agri-Food Systems in Developing Economies through Sustainable Agribusiness Development," Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana, 6–8 November 2025.
- ✓ Ibrahim, L. A., Owusu-Addo, E., & Bonuedi, I. (2025). *Impacts of mid-stream agro-value chain initiatives on nutritional outcomes in semi-arid Ghana.* Conference abstract presented at the 10th Annual Agriculture, Nutrition and Health (ANH) Academy Week, hybrid (online and in-person), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 16–26 June 2025.
- ✓ Ibrahim, L. A., Sakurai, T., & Tachibana, T. (2019). *Local rice market development: A modeling of retailer response to exogenous product differentiation.* Oral presentation at the Annual Conference of the Agricultural Economics Society of Japan, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, 31 March 2019.

- ✓ Ibrahim, L. A., & Sakurai, T. (2017). *Setups or setbacks to informal enterprise performance: A review of street food trade regulations through Porter's lenses.* Oral presentation at the Annual Conference of the Agricultural Economics Society of Japan, Chiba University, Chiba, Japan, 29 March 2017.

## 8. Professional Memberships

### 8.1 Academic and Professional Organizations

- Ghana Association of Agricultural Economists (GAAE).
- African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE).
- Agricultural Economics Society of Japan (AESJ).

### 8.2 Academic Service & Conference Leadership

Session Chair – Environmental Sustainability and Resilient Food Systems, 8th Annual Conference, Ghana Association of Agricultural Economists (GAAE) | KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana | 7 November 2025

- ✓ Chaired a two-hour parallel scientific session on Environmental Sustainability and Resilient Food Systems, under the conference theme *"Transforming Agri-Food Systems in Developing Economies through Sustainable Agribusiness Development."*
- ✓ Moderated presentations and scholarly discussion on climate information services, climate adaptation and maladaptation, land tenure and food security, farm household welfare, and pastoral adaptation in Ghana and Burkina Faso.
- ✓ Coordinated presenters, discussants and audience engagement, and synthesized cross-cutting implications for climate resilience, sustainable agribusiness and agri-food systems transformation.

## 9. Service and Outreach

### 9.1 Institutional Service

- ✓ IRDIS, KNUST: committee work on research-fund procedures, graduate-programme development, research proposal preparation and technical reporting.
- ✓ IRDIS, KNUST: support to applied research, evaluation, teaching and capacity-building in rural development, livelihoods, food systems and climate resilience.
- ✓ Collaborative research: partner coordination, institutional documentation and budget alignment for multi-country research proposals.

### 9.2 Outreach and Knowledge Exchange

Develops evidence summaries, facilitation materials and presentations for research and policy discussions, including indigenous foods, local dietary knowledge, education and rural development. Provides technical support for field-research preparation and interpretation of quantitative results.

## 10. Skills and Expertise

### 10.1 Languages Spoken or Read

- ✓ Ghanaian (Local): Gurune, Hausa, Twi, Dagbani
- ✓ International: English, Basic Japanese and Basic Arabic.

### 10.2 Computer Skills and Software Used

- ✓ Stata.
- ✓ R.
- ✓ Python.

- ✓ SPSS.
- ✓ Microsoft Excel, Word and PowerPoint.
- ✓ KoboToolbox and ODK-based survey systems.
- ✓ GIS-supported analysis.

### 10.3 Specialized Research or Technical Skills

- ✓ **Research and Analysis:**
  - Causal inference, Experimental Design, Randomized Control Trials, Quantitative Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Econometrics of Program Evaluation, Statistics.
  - Household survey design, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, thematic analysis, and mixed-methods triangulation.
  - Survey data cleaning, harmonization, weighting, and disaggregated analysis by sex, age, disability, geography, and vulnerability status.
- ✓ **Project Management:** Scoping and feasibility evaluation, Experienced in leading donor-funded agricultural and Development initiatives.
- ✓ **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL) frameworks; results framework development; indicator mapping; outcome harvesting; and theory-based evaluation.
- ✓ **Technical writing,** academic manuscript preparation, policy synthesis, proposal development, and research communication.

### 10.4 Thematic Areas of Expertise

- ✓ Agricultural economics and development economics.
- ✓ Food systems, food security, dietary diversity, and nutrition-sensitive agriculture.
- ✓ Agricultural value chains, local rice market development, quality governance, and import substitution.
- ✓ Agricultural extension and advisory services, service quality, farmer agency, and inclusivity.
- ✓ Informal food markets, street food trade, urban livelihoods, food safety, and city food governance.
- ✓ Climate resilience, rural livelihoods, water infrastructure, migration, adaptation, and vulnerability analysis.
- ✓ Education evaluation, culturally responsive teaching practices, social and emotional learning, gender equity, and inclusion.

### 10.5 Professional Certifications and Digital Badges

- ✓ **2025.07:** Diploma in Development Methodologies, J-PAL Certified, Dakar Summer School.
- ✓ **2024.05-2024.06:** IBM Data Science Professional Certificate track, Coursera; five out of ten courses completed/ongoing.
- ✓ **2024.10:** Professional Certificate in Project Management in International Development, Institute of Development Research, Nigeria.
- ✓ **2023.04:** Internship in Statistical Consulting, Institute of Development Research, Nigeria.
- ✓ **2023.04:** Fellowship in Proposal and Grant Writing, Institute of Development Research, Nigeria.
- ✓ **2023.03:** Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning for Development Professionals, Project Management for NGOs.
- ✓ **2023.02:** Fellowship in Development Research, Institute of Development Research, Nigeria.
- ✓ **2023.01-2023.02:** Sustainable Food Systems: Introduction, Concept and Framework, and Operationalization, FAO eLearning Academy.
- ✓ **2022.12:** Sustainable Food Value Chains for Nutrition, FAO eLearning Academy.
- ✓ **2022.11:** Basics of Livelihoods, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.
- ✓ **2022.10:** Monitoring and Evaluation Practices, International Rescue Committee.
- ✓ **2022.09:** Project Management Foundations, PMI / LinkedIn Learning.
- ✓ **2021.09:** GIS Foundations, University of Alaska Fairbanks.
- ✓ **2021.06:** Data Analysis for Social Scientists, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## 11. Referees

| Referee | Institutional Relationship | Address: |
|---|---|---|
| **1. Professor Robert Aidoo** | Senior academic/research supervisor | Department of Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness and Extension<br>KNUST, PMB University Post Office, Kumasi-Ghana. Tel: +233(0)24-454-4929 Email: badubob@yahoo.co.uk; robertaidoo.canr@knust.edu.gh |
| **2. Professor Takeshi Sakurai** | Senior collaborator or project lead | 1-1-1 Yayoi Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113 – 8657, Japan. The University of Tokyo, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Tel: +081(0)3-5841-5463<br>Email: atsakura@mail.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp |