

RUTH CHEPCHIRCHIR, PhD
Agricultural Economist
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PROFILE

Ruth Chepchirchir is a Senior Agricultural Economist with over 15 years of experience in food security, agricultural policy, and development research across sub-Saharan Africa. She specializes in impact evaluation, value chain analysis, and agricultural market systems, with strong expertise in both quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Her work focuses on improving smallholder productivity, resilience, and market integration. She has led and contributed to multi-country research and evaluation assignments for international organizations, governments, and development partners.

KEY EXPERTISE & REGIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Over 15 years of experience in agricultural economics and food systems research
- Extensive work across sub-Saharan Africa including Kenya, Ethiopia, Burundi, Zimbabwe, Liberia, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Cameroon, and Malawi
- Expertise in impact evaluation, M&E systems, gender analysis, and value chain development
- Proven experience leading multi-country studies and large-scale data collection and analysis
- Strong background in policy-oriented research, feasibility studies, and economic analysis

EDUCATION

PhD, Agricultural Economics – Kenyatta University, Kenya (2014–2018)

MSc, Agriculture and Applied Economics – Egerton University / University of Pretoria (2007–2010)

BSc, Agricultural Economics – Egerton University, Kenya (2002–2007)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal Investigator – Price Monitoring and Analysis, Kenya

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) | 2021–2026

- Lead data collection and analysis of food commodity prices in Kenya
- Produce regular analytical reports and market updates to inform food security policy

Gender Analysis and M&E Expert – RE-GAIN Program (Multi-country)

AGRA / Green Climate Fund | 2025

- Designed research methodologies and evaluation tools for baseline survey across seven countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso)
- Contributed to analysis on food loss reduction and climate resilience among smallholders

Food Security and Nutrition Specialist – NIPFN End-Term Evaluation, Kenya

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) | 2025

- Conducted stakeholder consultations and technical analysis on food security and nutrition systems
- Contributed to final evaluation reporting and policy recommendations

Lead Consultant – FARSAT Endline Evaluation, Kenya

Equity Group Foundation | 2024–2025

- Led evaluation design, implementation, and stakeholder engagement
- Oversaw data collection, analysis, and reporting for agricultural finance interventions

Monitoring & Evaluation Expert – KASI Agriventures Evaluation, Tanzania

SEAF | 2024

- Designed evaluation framework and tools
- Conducted data analysis and reporting on agribusiness investment outcomes

Gender and Agribusiness Expert – TREYL Project Evaluation, Kenya

Practical Action | 2023

- Led evaluation of youth livelihood and agro-ecological market systems interventions
- Provided insights on gender and market systems development

Associate Consultant – Strategic Plan Development

National Irrigation Authority, Kenya | 2023

- Contributed to development of 2023–2027 strategic plan
- Conducted stakeholder consultations and sector analysis

Consultant – Gendered Impacts of COVID-19 on Fish Trade

WorldFish / CGIAR | 2023

- Developed policy brief on cross-border fish trade in Zambia and Malawi
- Analyzed gendered economic impacts of COVID-19

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Ochieng, J. et al. (2025). Economic viability of scaling improved bean technologies in Burundi and Zimbabwe. Food and Energy Security.

Chepchirchir, R. T. et al. (2018). Ex-post economic analysis of push-pull technology in Eastern Uganda. Crop Protection.

Chepchirchir, R. T. et al. (2017). Impact assessment of push-pull pest management on incomes and productivity. Food Security.

Mudege, N., Chepchirchir, R., & Kakwasha, K. (2023). Gendered impacts of COVID-19 on cross-border fish traders. [Journal details pending].

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Includes multiple Kenya Food Price Monitor reports published by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Selected presentations at regional and international forums, including the African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE) conferences and AGRODEP research workshops.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member of AGRODEP Modeling Consortium, International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE), Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), and African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE).

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

DAAD-funded PhD scholarship under the African Regional Postgraduate Programme in Insect Science (ARPPIS/ICIPE). Recipient of competitive international research travel grants and training support from the African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium and the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE).