

Ka Lok Wong (Steve)

Ph.D. in Economics

Associate Economic Affairs Officer, UNECA (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Finance; Macroeconomics; Public Economics.

Software (teaching/working experience): Python, Stata, Matlab, Dynare, R, $\text{\LaTeX}$

EMPLOYMENT

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Macroeconomic Analysis Section

Addis Ababa, ET

Feb 2025 – Present

Conduct applied macroeconomic research and forecasting on growth, fiscal sustainability, and external balance, contributing to regional outlooks and flagship reports (e.g., *Economic Report on Africa* 2025, 2026, 2027).

Geneva Graduate Institute, Centre for Finance and Development

PhD Researcher

Geneva, CH

Oct 2022 – Aug 2024

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Consultant / External Collaborator (INWORK)

Research Intern

Bangkok, TH

Oct 2019 – Jul 2020

Feb 2019 – Aug 2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in International Economics, Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID)

2021 – 2025

Grade: *Summa Cum Laude*

Thesis: *Essays in International Finance and Macroeconomics*

Thesis Committee: Prof. Cedric Tille (supervisor), Prof. Ugo Panizza (internal reader), Prof. Jean-Paul Renne (external reader)

Master in International Economics, Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID)

2020 – 2021

M.Sc. in Economic History, London School of Economics

2017 – 2018

B.A. in Culture Management, City University of Hong Kong

2013 – 2017

PUBLICATIONS

Determinants of Sovereign Bond Issuance in Emerging Markets. (First-authored; with Mark Manger & Ugo Panizza) Accepted, *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, forthcoming special issue on “Sovereign Debt”.

WORKING PAPERS

Africa’s Domestic Debt: Balancing Resilience and Vulnerability. (Co-authored with M. Chui, L. Gambacorta, U. Panizza, and N. Rescia) *BIS Working Paper*, forthcoming.

Africa’s Domestic Debt Boom: Evidence from the African Debt Database. (Co-authored with M. Manger, D. Mihalyi, U. Panizza, N. Rescia, C. Trebesch) *CEPR Discussion Papers* 20747, 2025.

TEACHING

Ministry of Finance, Botswana	Gaborone, BW
Capacity building workshop on ECA macroeconomic model	Sep 2025
Department of International Economics, Geneva Graduate Institute	Geneva, CH
Teaching Assistant	Sep 2024 – Jan 2025
DSGE Modelling & Simulation, Introductory Statistics	

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (Selected)

RA to Prof. Ugo Panizza , “Original Sin” project	Jun – Sep 2022
Consultant/External Collaborator (Employment Policy Dept.)	Aug – Sep 2022
RA to Prof. Philippe Bacchetta	Jul 2021 – Jun 2022
RA to Prof. Richard Baldwin	Mar – Jul 2021

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee: *Journal of Forecasting* (2024)

Conference/Webinar presentations: FDL/SIID Shanghai Workshop (2025), SSES Annual Congress (2023), Swiss Stata Conference (2022), AFRODAD Webinar (2026)

SKILLS

- **Data Platforms:** Bloomberg Terminal, Refinitiv DataStream, ORBIS, S&P Capital IQ, generic APIs
- **Languages:** English (fluent); Chinese-Cantonese (native); Chinese-Mandarin (fluent); French (B1); Spanish (B1)