

Kofi Annan Scholars 2021-22

Lucia Artavia Guzman



After Lucia graduated as an architect from Universidad de Costa Rica and as an urban and transportation planner from the University of Pennsylvania, she has devoted her professional experience to urban, regional and transportation planning, with an emphasis on land use planning, transport oriented development and environmental assessment, where she has worked for local governments, academia and NGOs. Over the past 3.5 years, she has worked as an advisor in urban, transportation, and territorial planning for the Presidential team of Costa Rica. Her country is very small, yet extremely biodiverse, with a solid conservation network. Given her background in urban and regional planning, she understood that all comprehensive territorial planning efforts in Costa Rica need to bring biodiversity and conservation into the picture. This is key for the management of natural resources, transition or buffer areas and overall sustainability. which inspired her to pursue a MSc in Biodiversity, Conservation and Management at the University of Oxford. Her main interests related to her master course are the integration of urban development with conservation and biodiversity, particularly inter-urban biological corridors, buffer areas, urban growth boundaries and conservation connectivity.

Ebenezer Dariye



Ebenezer has a BSc in Natural and Environmental Sciences from the American University of Nigeria. He also holds a PGDip in Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System from the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education-English. He has worked in Ghana as a Director of ATMOS Limited, a government consultancy he co-founded to provide WASH solutions. After he completed his mandatory national service, he started working with Nigeria's federal government as a Scientific Officer in the National Space Research and Development Agency. At Oxford, he is pursuing an MSc in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Management where he seeks to develop expert knowledge on human wildlife conflict and park management systems. In the future, he intends to be a conservation leader in Nigeria.

Tsionawit Gebre-Yohannes



Tsionawit has worked in humanitarian organisations for over six years, most recently as the Regional Program Advisor for the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in North Africa. Her work has focused on conducting research and delivering humanitarian assistance to refugees and migrants. Tsionawit is pursuing a Master of Public Policy from the Blavatnik School of Government and aims to work in policy making role, promoting migration for development, and enhancing the protection of refugees and migrants. She completed a BA (Hons) in Economics and Sociology from the University of Tasmania.

César Sanchez Casares



Before starting the MPP, César was a Knowledge Management Supervisor in Mercado Libre Inc, the largest e-commerce and fintech company in Latin America, where he led corporate education and knowledge strategy projects. Formerly, he was Manager of University Liaison in the Government of the City of Buenos Aires, where he created and implemented the government's first policy on talent attraction and international education. This helped to significantly increase the number of international students in the local universities. César believes that high-quality education related to productive needs is a key tool to boost development in Latin America. In the future, he intends to become a problem-solver and decision-maker in the areas of education and knowledge transfer, helping to foster the connections between the education system and the production network. César holds a bachelor's degree in Modern Languages from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and an Executive MBA degree from IAE Business School.

Ishaan Sethi



Ishaan is an Oxford-Weidenfeld & Hoffman Kofi Annan Scholar from Mansfield College studying the MSc in Evidence-based Social Intervention & Policy Evaluation. He did his undergraduate study at the University of Delhi majoring in Economics, and comes with 6 years of experience cutting across the domains of education, sanitation and political consulting. Ishaan wishes to use his learnings at Oxford to bring about a more robust and data-backed policy climate in rural India.

Olivia Tienin



Olivia holds a BA in Business Management with a minor in African and African American Studies (AAAS) from Earlham College. Before Oxford, she worked as a programme coordinator and consultant at Global Environment and Technology Foundation (GETF) in Virginia, supporting the implementation, day-to-day management, and closeout of Replenish Africa Initiative (RAIN) projects across the African continent to improve sustainable access to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services for over 6 million Africans.

During her undergraduate studies, Olivia became one of the founding members of Mashinani Farmers Initiative. This agricultural start-up empowers young rural farmers in Kenya to improve their food production and revenues simultaneously. In 2017, she has also led a project that aimed to fight against infant mortality in her home country Burkina Faso. This project has helped over 100 mothers and their children living in disadvantaged areas in Ouagadougou gain access to free health insurance.

Olivia is committed to contributing to the development of the African continent through interdisciplinary solutions for a sustainable future. This commitment, rooted in her upbringing and unique experiences growing up in Burkina Faso, has inspired her to pursue the MSc in African Studies at Oxford. She is passionate about supporting development programmes that help improve human dignity while simultaneously empowering women and youth on her beloved continent.

Marcela Arias Moncada



Marcela is a Honduran lawyer, feminist, and activist for social change. Her motivations are rooted in the political exile and criminal processes she and her family endured as a consequence of the coup

d'état in 2009. Ever since then, Marcela acquired a critical sense of criminal justice and eventually, the public sector in general. Marcela joined the Honduran feminist movement in 2018 and conducted strategic planning processes for Somos Muchas, the biggest feminist platform in Honduras. Within this framework, she cofounded the National Meeting of Women and developed the first research on the criminalization of women for the crime of abortion in Honduras. As a Human Rights Officer at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Marcela acquired expertise in the areas of employment and economic development. She is currently writing about the impact each of these areas has on human rights and expects to continue research on the accountability of private sector on human rights matters.