

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date and place of birth: 06.08.1986, Sigulda, Latvia

EDUCATION

- 2016-20 European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy
 Doctoral programme in Political and Social Sciences (4-year full-time, fully funded PhD programme)
 Thesis: Intergenerational inequality of educational opportunities in low-income contexts
 Expected submission date: June 2020
- 2019 University of Cambridge, UK
 Visiting scholar at the Research for Equitable Access and Learning Centre, University of Cambridge
- 2009-10 Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, Maastricht University, the Netherlands
 MSc in Public Policy and Human Development, Specialization: Social Policy Design
 Final grade average: 84/100
 Thesis: Evaluation of the 'Placement for Training' Unemployment Reduction Programme in Mauritius
- 2005-09 University of Dundee, Scotland
 MA joint honours in European Studies and International Relations
 Final degree: First class honours
 Thesis: What are the obstacles for effective cooperation between the EU and Russia?
- 2007-08 Université Pierre-Mendès France, Grenoble, France
 Erasmus exchange at the Faculty of Law
 University diploma received: Administration et Politique Internationales

EMPLOYMENT

- 2017-18 Research Assistant, part-time, European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy
 - Supervisor: Prof. Dorothee Bohle. Project: "Debt Crisis in Europe"
 - Identifying reasons and analysing reactions to the debt crisis in Europe from 2008 to 2012: the case of Latvia
- 2017 Research Assistant, part-time, European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy
 - Supervisor: Prof. Anton Hemerijck. Project: "The social Investment case"
 - Studying the association between social investment policies and outcomes for families with children in the OECD
- 2015-16 Social Policy Consultant, Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI), Cape Town, South Africa
 - Mapping social protection programmes in Morocco to develop a vision for an integrated social protection system, in cooperation with UNICEF and the Ministry of General Affairs and Governance in Morocco
 - Technical assistance and training on the measurement of poverty and multidimensional deprivation in Algeria
 - Child poverty analysis in Kenya using a mixed-methods approach (quantitative analysis, FGDs, interviews)
- 2011-14 Social and Economic Policy Consultant, UNICEF Office of Research (Innocenti), Florence, Italy
 - Designing a methodology for measuring and analysing child poverty, used by UNICEF country offices (MODA – Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis)
 - Conducting a cross-country study on child poverty using large household survey data (DHS, MICS)
 - Leading regional workshops on poverty measurement for UNICEF offices in MENA, WCA, and ESA regions
 - Working with UNICEF offices in Madagascar, Senegal, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, and Tunisia, providing technical support to undertake country-specific child poverty studies and leading workshops for UNICEF and local partners
 - Assisting in assessing the impact of Zimbabwe's Harmonized Social Cash Transfer
 - Reviewing changes in social policies in Latvia over 2008-2014, feeding into the Report Card 12: "Children of the Recession: The impact of the economic crisis on child well-being in rich countries"
- 2010 Junior Consultant, UNICEF Office of Research (Innocenti), Florence, Italy
 - Mapping social protection practices and researching the expansion of social protection in 8 developing countries

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in peer-reviewed journals

Plavgo, I. and Bernardi, F. (under review). 'Intergenerational educational inequality in sub-Saharan Africa for birth cohorts 1974-2003: Trends and macro-level explanations'. (submitted 12 Dec 2019), *American Sociological Review*.

Plavgo, I. and Hemerijck, A. (forthcoming). 'The Social Investment Litmus Test: Family Formation, Employment and Poverty'. Revise & Resubmit (7 Dec 2019), *Journal of European Social Policy*.

De Milliano, M. and I. Plavgo (2018). 'Analysing Multidimensional Child Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa: Findings Using an International Comparative Approach'. *Child Indicators Research*, 11(3) 805-833.
DOI: 10.1007/s12187-017-9488-1

Chzhen, Y., de Neubourg, C., Plavgo, I., & de Milliano, M. (2016). 'Child Poverty in the European Union: The Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis Approach (EU-MODA)'. *Child Indicators Research*, 9(2), 335-356.
DOI: 10.1007/s12187-015-9321-7

Book chapters

Plavgo, I. (forthcoming). 'Unequal educational trajectories: the case of Ethiopia'. In Prerna Banati (ed) *Sustainable Development across the Life Course: Evidence from Longitudinal Research*, Bristol: Policy Press.

Working Papers

Bernardi, F. and I. Plavgo (forthcoming). 'Education as an equalizer for human development?' Background paper for the Human Development Report 2019: Tackling Inequality in the 21st Century. NY: UNDP.

Plavgo, I. and M. Sobocinski (forthcoming). 'How to explain policy recalibration and inertia? The case of post-1989 family policy in Latvia and Poland'. *SPS working paper series*, European University Institute, Florence.

De Milliano, M. and I. Plavgo (2014). 'Cross Country Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis: Analysing Child poverty and deprivation in Sub-Saharan Africa'. *Working Paper 2014-19*, UNICEF Office of Research, Florence

De Neubourg, M. de Milliano, I. Plavgo (2014). 'Lost (in) Dimensions: Consolidating progress in multidimensional poverty research'. *Working Paper No. 2014-04*, UNICEF Office of Research, Florence

De Neubourg, C., J. Chai, M. de Milliano, I. Plavgo, Z. Wei (2012). 'Cross-country MODA Study: Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) - Technical note'. *Working Paper 2012-05*, UNICEF Office of Research

De Neubourg, C., J. Chai, M. de Milliano, I. Plavgo, Z. Wei (2012). 'Step-by-Step Guidelines to the Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)'. *Working Paper 2012-06*, UNICEF Office of Research, Florence

Reports

Plavgo, I., Kibur, M., Bitew, M., Gebreselassie, T., Matsuda, Y., Pearson, R. (2013). *Multidimensional Child Deprivation Trend Analysis in Ethiopia. Further analysis of the 2000, 2005 and 2011 Demographic and Health Surveys data*. Calverton, MD: ICF International and UNICEF

Plavgo, I. (2010). *Evaluation of the Placement for Training Programme under the Empowerment Programme in Mauritius*. Maastricht Graduate School of Governance

Lead-author of reports

KNBS (2017). *Child Poverty in Kenya: A Multidimensional Approach*. Kenya National Bureau of Statistics.

Co-author of reports

MAGG, UNICEF, SNU (2018). *Mapping of the current social protection system in Morocco – Mapping de la Protection Sociale au Maroc*. Ministère Délégué auprès du Chef du Gouvernement chargé des Affaires Générales et de la Gouvernance (MAGG), UNICEF, Nations Unies Maroc.

MAGG, UNICEF (2016). *Vision pour une politique intégrée de protection sociale au Maroc*. Ministère Délégué auprès du Chef du Gouvernement chargé des Affaires Générales et de la Gouvernance (MAGG) et UNICEF.

American Institute for Research (2013). *Targeting Report for Zimbabwe's Harmonised Social Cash Transfer*. Washington, DC.

Policy Briefs

Plavgo, I. and de Milliano, M. (2014). *Multidimensional Child Deprivation and Monetary Poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. MODA In Brief 7*. Innocenti Working Paper No. 2014-19, Florence, Italy

Plavgo, I. de Milliano, M. Handa, S. (2013). *The Cost of Social Cash Transfer Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa*. The Transfer Project Research Brief 2013-01: Chapel Hill, NC: Carolina Population Center, UNC-Chapel Hill

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019 Teacher Training Certificate obtained in May 2019
Course title: 'Introduction to Teaching in Higher Education', held at the EUI from March to May 2019
Course content: a total of 20 hours of class time, a teaching practice, and completion of a course outline
- 2017 Teaching Assistant, European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy
Assisting Dr. Marta Fraile in teaching courses for 1st year PhD researchers in Political and Social Sciences
1. Introduction to Data Analysis and STATA for Beginners (duration: 1 week, Sept 2017)
 2. Introduction in Quantitative Methods (duration: 1 semester, Oct-Dec 2017)
- 2011-16 Lecturer, University of Mauritius, Mauritius
Tutoring a course in quantitative research methods for Master's students, as part of an MSc programme in Social Protection Financing
Course title: Quantitative Social Protection Analysis. Task-based teaching using Excel and STATA
Duration: a total of 60 contact hours every academic year, taught every January from 2011 to 2016

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2019 InGRID-2 Expert Workshop 'Comparative Analysis of Longitudinal Data on Educational Outcomes'
27-29 November 2019, DIW Berlin
Presentation: Intergenerational transmission of advantage: Early abilities and school transitions in Ethiopia
- 2019 ECSR Annual Conference on inequality over the life course, 12-14 September 2019, Lausanne
Presentation: Trends and determinants of intergenerational educational inequality in sub-Saharan Africa
- 2019 ISA RC28 Spring Meeting on stratification, mobility and inequality, 21-23 March 2019, Frankfurt
Presentation: Trends in Intergenerational Educational Inequality in sub-Saharan Africa, cohorts 1974-2003
- 2018 ECSR 2nd Thematic Workshop *Wealth Inequality and Mobility*: 6-7 Dec 2018, Luxembourg
Presentation: "Educational capital or wealth? Inequality in education in Africa between 1990s and 2010s"
- ESPANet Conference (European Network for Social Policy Analysis): 30 Aug - 1 Sept 2018, Vilnius
Panel: *What can we learn from the "East"? Comparative analysis of former communist welfare states*
Presentation: "How to explain policy recalibration and inertia? The case of post-1989 family policy in Latvia and Poland"
- Conference *100th Anniversary of Latvia, 20th Anniversary of Protection of the Rights of the Child Law*
Organized by The State Inspectorate for protection of Children's Rights: 15 May 2018, Riga
Presentation: "Why invest in children? The role of social investment in reducing child poverty in Europe"
- 2017 Conference *Putting Children First: Identifying Solutions and Taking Action to Tackle Child Poverty and Inequality in Africa*: 23-25 Oct 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Presentation: "Mechanisms behind Inequality in Educational Opportunities: The case of Ethiopia"
- Discussion *Today's children – the next century of Latvia*: 29 May 2017, Riga
Organized by the cabinet of the President of Latvia, in collaboration with Child Well-being Network, Latvia
Presentation: "Social investment in children through social policy to reach equal opportunities for all"
- 2015 ISCI Conference (International Society for Child Indicators): 2-4 Sept 2015, Cape Town, South Africa
Panel: *International Measurement of Multi-dimensional Child Poverty in Developing Countries*
Presentation: "Child poverty and deprivation in Africa: Cross-country multidimensional analysis"

CONSULTATION PARTICIPATION

- 2019 UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) Consultation Meeting, 23 April, Qatar Foundation/WISE, Doha
Presentation: "Intergenerational transmission of inequality: A closer look at sub-Saharan Africa"
- 2018 Advisory Board Member for the 15th UNICEF *Innocenti Report Card* series:
'An Unfair Start: Inequality in Children's Education in Rich Countries', *Innocenti Report Card 15*, UNICEF
Office of Research – Innocenti, Florence

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- LIS Summer Workshop on Inequality and Poverty Measurement, 8-12 July 2019, Luxembourg
- ECSR Spring School "New and Old Data: Cutting-Edge Approaches to Quantitative Social Research", in collaboration with Collegio Carlo Alberto and NASP, 25-29 March 2019, Turin, Italy
- IRVAPP Winter School "Fundamentals and Methods for Impact Evaluation of Public Policies", 14-19 Jan 2019, Trento, Italy
- INGRID Winter School "Using EUROMOD in cross country microsimulation", 21-23 Nov 2018, ISER, University of Essex, UK.

INTERNSHIPS

- 2010 Junior Consultant (3 months), National Empowerment Foundation (NEF), Port Louis, Mauritius
- *Evaluating a national unemployment reduction programme in Mauritius through qualitative and quantitative research, including administrative data collection and analysis, field trips, and structured interviews*
- 2008 Intern (2 months), Permanent Representation of the Republic of Latvia to the EU; Brussels

SCHOLARSHIPS

Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia, Latvian grant to cover four years of full-time doctoral studies at the European University Institute (2016-2020)

REVIEWER SERVICE IN PEER-REVIEW JOURNALS

Development Southern Africa (2019)

OTHER SKILLS

- Languages: Latvian: native; English: fluent (C2); French: advanced (C1); Italian: intermediate (B2); Russian: basic
- IT: MS Office (Word, Excel, Power Point); Statistical software STATA 15 (advanced); R (basic)