

Emmanuel Nene Odjidja

M&E Specialist · Implementation Research & Design · Learning

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Senior M&E specialist with approximately 12 years' experience in global health and international development, leading grant effectiveness, research, design and learning across multi-country portfolios. Extensive experience in conducting mixed-methods formative, process and impact evaluations in fragile, conflict-affected and development settings using complexity-aware approaches. Strong background in health measurement, impact modelling and country data systems, with peer-reviewed work on health financing, child health, antenatal care, infectious diseases and nutrition. Skilled facilitator who convenes governments, country teams, implementing partners, and donors around adaptive, results-focused practices. Fluent in English and French.

Countries of professional experience: Burundi, South Sudan, United Kingdom, Ghana, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Tunisia, Chad, Mauritania, Sri Lanka, and Switzerland.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

January 2025 – Present

M&E Specialist: Research, Design and Learning (Global)

Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), Geneva, Switzerland

- Lead the institutionalisation of GCERF's multi-layered MEL system that connects global strategy, country investment strategies, and grant-level results frameworks across all portfolios.
- Responsible for MEL components of the grant-making process map, ensuring every grant starts with a portfolio-aligned theory of change and results framework before workplan and budget.
- Organise regular portfolio learning events with country teams, governments, and partners, sharing results from grant portfolios and agreeing on course corrections and next-phase designs.

March 2021 – December 2024

Monitoring, Assessments, and Evaluation Specialist (Sahel Region, Tunisia & Sri Lanka)

Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), Geneva, Switzerland

- Supported countries to align with M&E requirements during grant-making and activity execution, including development of theories of change and results frameworks.
- Methodological advisor for all evaluations (baselines, midlines and endlines) conducted in country portfolios, ensuring quality and robustness in design.
- Prepared guidelines and standard operating procedures for conducting field assessments.

February 2024 – Present

Section Editor, Case-Based Evaluations

Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation (JMDE)

- Provide editorial leadership for the case-based evaluations section, guiding its thematic direction and standards for methodological rigour and practical relevance.
- Manage submissions end-to-end from initial screening and peer review coordination to final decisions, ensuring each published case delivers clear, actionable lessons for evaluation practice.

February 2018 – November 2020

Head, Research (Epidemiology), Monitoring and Evaluation Department

Village Health Works, Burundi

- Led the organisation-wide Research, Epidemiology and M&E function, providing technical direction across programmes and strengthening staff capacity.
- Led negotiation and implementation of a US\$100,000 grant to conduct a baseline with a difference-in-difference evaluation design covering health systems, infectious diseases, and childhood immunisation indicators.

October 2017 – December 2017

Assessments and Evaluation Consultant

AVSI Foundation, South Sudan

- Co-led two multi-sectoral and nutrition surveys among pastoralists (Toposa) in Greater Kapoeta County. Coordinated logistical support for data collection in a deteriorated security environment.

SELECTED INDEPENDENT CONSULTING

January 2024 – March 2025

Lead International Consultant

UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office (Remote)

- Designed a regional results and MEL operating model for the OECS SISP Strategic Action Plan 2023–2030, including a harmonised results framework, theory of change, and indicator schema.
- Secured high-level adoption by engaging Ministers responsible for Social Protection across OECS member states; rationalised indicators from 144 to 66.
- Established an OECS M&E Technical Working Group deploying KoboToolbox reporting tools and an AI-powered Data Assistant for near-real-time performance monitoring.

October 2019 – March 2021

Impact Evaluation Consultant

Global Partners for Development, United States (Remote)

- Conducted difference-in-difference analysis in STATA to determine the net effect of a WASH project on reducing school days missed. Supported evaluation report writing and review.

December 2015 – September 2016

Senior Consultant, Monitoring, Evaluation and Knowledge Management

Coastal Resources Centre, University of Rhode Island, Ghana

- Developed a full M&E system for the Coastal Resources Center and supported eight partnering organisations to tailor local M&E systems to USAID requirements.
- Designed and completed a formative evaluation on the feasibility of introducing a new fish stove in Ghana's fisheries sector.

April 2015 – November 2015

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant

PATH (USAID MalariaCare), Ghana

- Collaborated with the Ghana Health Service to create a national surveillance and supportive supervision system that increased capacity to correctly diagnose and treat malaria from 58% at baseline to 92% at end of project.

EDUCATION

MSc Global Health (Distinction)

BA (Hons) Geography and Rural Development

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana — June 2013

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (29 PEER-REVIEWED)

1. Klein, J.W., Bastian, B., **Odjidja, E.N.**, et al. (2025). Identity fusion can foster intergroup trust and willingness to cooperate. *Communications Psychology*, 3(1), p.124.
2. Iradukunda, A., Getnet, F. and **Odjidja, E.N.** (2025). Tuberculosis mortality and drug resistance among patients under TB treatment before and during COVID-19 in Burundi. *BMC Infectious Diseases*, 25(1), p.716.
3. **Odjidja, E.N.**, Ayaluri, S.S. & Fiodorov, D. (2024). Do Livelihood Interventions Contribute to the Prevention of Violent Extremism? A Realist Evaluation. *The RUSI Journal*, 169(3), 52-66.
4. Saha, M., Ng, H., **Odjidja, E.N.**, et al. (2024). Small Fish Big Impact: Improving Nutrition during Pregnancy and Lactation. *Nutrients (MDPI)*, 16(12), 1829.
5. **Odjidja, E.N.**, et al. (2022). The effect of health financing reforms on incidence and management of childhood infections in Ghana: a matching DiD impact evaluation. *BMC Public Health*, 22(1).
6. **Odjidja, E.N.** (2022). Reimagining outcome harvesting as an approach for assessing contribution of programs in fragile settings. *Evaluation Matters (African Development Bank)*.
7. **Odjidja, E.N.** (2021). What is wrong with global health? So-called glorified data collectors in low-income regions. *The Lancet Global Health*, 9(10), e1365.
8. **Odjidja, E.N.**, et al. (2020). 2030 Countdown to combating malnutrition in Burundi. *International Health (Oxford)*.
9. **Odjidja, E.N.** (2018). Control of infectious disease during pregnancy among pastoralists in South Sudan. *Pastoralism (Springer)*, 8(1).

View all 29 publications on Google Scholar →

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Technical: Grant effectiveness and portfolio performance, theory of change and results framework design, MEL system design at global/country/grant level, impact and quasi-experimental evaluation, realist and adaptive evaluation, outcome harvesting, health systems and epidemiological research, vulnerability indices and composite measures, performance monitoring and learning facilitation.

Data & Digital: Advanced quantitative analysis (STATA, SPSS), GIS and spatial analysis (ArcGIS), survey design and mobile data platforms (KoboToolbox), dashboard and data visualisation, routine health information systems.

Languages: English (Native), French (Full Professional Proficiency).

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & SERVICE

- American Evaluation Association, Member
- Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Member
- International Epidemiological Association, Member
- Reviewer: WHO Bulletin, International Health (Oxford), American Public Health Association

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Good Clinical Practice — NIDA Clinical Trials Network (2020)
- Evaluating Social Programs — MIT EDx (2015)
- Statistical Reasoning for Public Health — Johns Hopkins University (2014)
- Reproductive & Maternal Health: A Global Perspective — Utrecht University (2019)