



BRENDA KOSI ANDRIAS

(2025)

CONTACT

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FIELDS OF INTEREST

Informal economy; women entrepreneurs; gender inequality; social capital

PRESENT POSITION

Assistant, Institute of Public Finance, Zagreb

ACADEMIC EDUCATION

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2023 | Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain – PhD (ongoing) |
| 2015 | School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University, Australia - Master of Public Policy |
| 2009 | School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Papua New Guinea, Papua New Guinea – BA |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

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|-------------|---|
| Since 2025 | Assistant, Institute of Public Finance, Zagreb |
| 2022 – 2023 | Deputy Facility Director/Operations Manager, Australia Solomon Islands Resource Facility (ASIRF), Solomon Islands |
| 2019 – 2022 | Programme Management Specialist, UN Women Papua New Guinea Country Office, Papua New Guinea |
| 2018 – 2019 | Project Manager, UN Women Papua New Guinea Country Office, Papua New Guinea |
| 2018 – 2022 | Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Focal Point, UN Women Papua New Guinea Country Office, Papua New Guinea |
| 2017 – 2018 | Programme Analyst, UN Women Papua New Guinea Country Office, Papua New Guinea |
| 2016 – 2017 | Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Program, Papua New Guinea |
| 2012 – 2013 | Monitoring, Research and Learning Coordinator, Electoral Support Program, Papua New Guinea |
| 2010 – 2011 | Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Anglicare PNG Inc, Papua New Guinea |

LANGUAGES

English and Papua New Guinea Tokpisin (creole)

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH ABROAD

2025 Personal Network Analysis Winter Course, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain
2024 Lisbon Early Career Workshop in Urban Studies, University of Lisbon, Portugal
2024 Workshop: Informality as a Methodological Approach, University of Naples L'Orientale, Italy
2022 Emerging Leaders in Development Training Program, DT Global, remote and in Australia
2014 Australian Development Scholarship, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Mentor in the Women Mentoring Program with Australia Awards PNG (2025 - 2026)
Co-president of the Pacific Chapter of the Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Human Settlements (EAROPH) (2023 – Current)
Member of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (2023 – 2024)

RESEARCHER AND COLLABORATOR ON RESEARCH PROJECTS

Post-pandemic resilient communities: is the informal economy a reservoir for the next generation of digitalized and green businesses in the Global South? (PRESILIENT)

CONFERENCES

Presentation “Understanding Informality: The Social, Cultural, Political, and Environmental Influences on Women Entrepreneurs in the Informal Economy in Papua New Guinea”, GRAFO Seminar (El Grup de Recerca en Antropologia Fonamental i Orientada), Autonomous University of Barcelona, January 2025
Panel presentation “Transitioning traditional economies into the cash economy: Exploring the symbiotic co-existence of the formal and informal economies in Papua New Guinea”, Lisbon Conference on Social and Solidarity Economy and the Commons, November 2024
Panel presentation “Institutionalizing the informal? Post-pandemic recovery for women entrepreneurs in Papua New Guinea”, Association of Social Anthropologists Biennial Conference, Barcelona, July 2024.