Isabel Günther

ETH Zürich, Centre for Development and Cooperation (NADEL)

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Email: guenther@nadel.ethz.ch NADEL: Webpage NADEL DEC: Webpage DEC

Born: December 21, 1978 Nationality: German

Current position

Associate Professor Development Economics. ETH Zurich, Switzerland Director Center for Development and Cooperation (NADEL). ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Research Interests

Measurement and Impact of Inequality • Population and Urbanization Dynamics • Technologies and Policies for Basic Service Delivery • Responsible Resource Extraction and Use • Effectiveness of Development Policies and Aid • Sub-Saharan Africa.

Appointments held

Currently	Associate	: Professoi	r Devel	lopment	Economics.	ETH	Zurich, Switzerland	
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Director Center for Development and Cooperation (NADEL). ETH Zurich, Switzerland

2008 - 2014 Assistant Professor Development Economics. ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Theodor Heuss Guest Assistant Professor. New School for Social Research, New York, USA

2007-2008 Post-Doctoral Fellow. Harvard University, Cambridge, USA
2007 Teaching Associate. Stellenbosch University, South Africa

2006 Research Associate. Institut de Recherche de Développment (DIAL), Paris, France

Research and Teaching Associate. University of Göttingen, Germany

Education

1998-2002

University of Göttingen, *PhD in Economics (summa cum laude)*. Göttingen, Germany Vienna School of Int. Studies, *MA International Affairs (with honors)*. Vienna, Austria

European School of Business, Dipl.-Betriebswirtin. Reutlingen, Germany

Northeastern University, BA International Business. Boston, USA

Awards

Sep 2016	Publication Award for Improving the Practice of Policy Evaluation, 3000 CHF Swiss Evaluation Society (SEVAL)
Oct 2013	Best Practice Award for Cooperation between Research and Practice, 3000 Euro Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network (PEGNet)
Jun 2012	Publication Award for Excellence in Applied Development Research, 5000 Euro Research Committee on Development Economics (AEL), Verein für Socialpolitik (VfS)
Oct 2008	Best PhD Award in Economics at University of Göttingen, 1000 Euro Gustav-Hopf-Preis in Economics, University of Göttingen
Sep 2006	Award for Outstanding Publication of Young Scientist, 2500 Euro Stiftungsrat, University of Göttingen
	Research grants
Sep 2018 -	Shared Sanitation Measurement in Kenya, Ghana and Bangladesh Co-PI with EAWAG, WSUP
Oct 2017 -	Sustainable Extraction of Minerals: Focus Gold
Jun 2017 -	Co-PI with various research groups at ETH, ETH Linking Education and Labor Markets to improve the Income of the Youth Co-PI with KOF, Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF, r4d)
Jan 2017 -	Managing Urban Growth: Towards Safer, More Inclusive Cities Co-PI wit UTT, Center for Security Studies (CSS), Energy Conversion Lab, ETH
Jan 2016 -	Health Systems Governance for Inclusive Health Protection Co-PI with SwissTPH and SUPSI, Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF, r4d)
2014 - 2016	Solar Lights for Poverty Reduction PI, Google
2013 - 2014	Microfinance and Urban Poverty PI, KfW Development Bank
2011 - 2014	Economic Solutions for Sanitation Services in Poor Urban Settlements PI, European Research Area (ERA) EU-FP7
2011 - 2013	New Perspectives on Aid Effectiveness PI, KfW Development Bank
2010 - 2014	Promoting Sanitation through Economic Benefits of Nutrient Recovery Researcher, PI: EAWAG, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
2009 - 2011	Impact of Rural Water Interventions in Benin Co-PI with University Amsterdam, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation Germany (BMZ)
2009 - 2010	Water, Sanitation and Child Mortality in Developing Countries Co-PI with Harvard University, World Bank (WB)
	Own Data Collection
2019 - 2020	RCT and household panel (2 waves), 800 households, South Africa
2018 2018	Online experiment, LINK, 2500 individuals, Switzerland Online experiment, Mturk, 10.000 individuals, USA
2018	Online experiment, Mturk, 5.000 individuals, USA
2018	Online experiment, Mturk, 3.000 individuals, USA
2015 - 2016 2014 - 2017	RCT and household panel (3 waves), 1.500 rural households, Kenya Behavioral lab experiments, 500 students, Switzerland

2013 - 2014	Survey and behavioral experiments (2 waves), 1.200 urban households, Uganda
2012 - 2016	Oversubscription approach and student panel (2 waves), 500 students, Kenya
2011 - 2013	Survey and choice experiments (2 waves), 1.200 urban households, South Africa
2010 - 2013	RCT and household panel (3 waves), 1.500 urban households, Uganda
2009 - 2010	RCT and household panel (2 waves), 700 rural households, Benin
2009 - 2010	Diff-in-Diff and household panel (4 waves), 2000 rural households, Benin

Associations

EUDN – European Development Network - by election

SDNS - Sustainable Development Solutions Network Switzerland - by invitation

 ${\it KFPE-Commission for Research\ Partnerships\ with\ Developing\ Countries\ -\ } by\ election$

AEL - German Research Committee on Development Economics - *by election* PEGNet - Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network - *by invitation*

European Economic Association (EEA), European Society for Population Economics (ESPE), International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW), Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Verein für Socialpolitik (VfS), Development Economics Network Switzerland (DENS)

ETH Committee Work

ETH KIKRI child care board (since 2016)

ETH Global R₄D Committee (since 2013)

ETH NADEL Teaching Commission (since 2009)

ETH Professorial Selection Committees: 2009, 2012, 2015, 2016 (2)

ETH D-GESS Teaching Commission (2012-2017)

ETH representative at Swissuniversities Development and Cooperation Network (SUDAC) (since 2015)

Languages

German (native speaker), English (fluent), French (not as good as I wish for)

Referee Work

Agricultural Economics

Demography

Development and Change

Environmental Science & Technology

European Journal of Development Research

Environmental Science & Technology

Economics and Human Biology

Feminist Economics

Journal of Economic Inequality Journal of African Economies Journal of Development Studies

Journal of Econ Behavior & Organization

Journal of Development Economics

Oxford Development Studies

Population Studies

Review of International Economics Review of Income and Wealth

Review of Development Economics

SCIENCE

Review of International Organizations

PhD Students

Kathrin Durizzo, Funding: SNF Mar 2019 -Dario Meili, Funding: ETH Zürich Oct 2018 -Antoinette van der Merwe, Supervisor, Funding: Reserves/ISTP Oct 2017 -Oct 2017 -Kudrzycki, Bartlomiej, Supervisor, Funding: SNF Yael Borofsky, Supervisor, Funding: Reserves/ISTP Jun 2017 -Selina Bezzola, Supervisor, Funding: SNF Dec 2016 -Samuel Tetteh-Baah, Supervisor, Funding: ETH Zürich May 2015 -Sep 14 - Oct 18 Adina Rom, Supervisor, Funding: Google, Next: ETH Zürich ⊠ Policy Analytics Jan 13 - Jun 17 Joeri Smits, Supervisor, Funding: ETH Zürich, Next: Yale University May 11 - Oct 15 Japheth Kwiringira, Supervisor, Funding: ERA EU-FP7, Next: Makerere University Oct 10 - Nov 15 Laura Metzger, Supervisor, Funding: KfW Development Bank, Next: Harvard University Nov 10 - Jan 15 Elisabeth Tilley, Supervisor, Funding: Gates Foundation, Next: Malawi University Sep 09 - Jun 15 Alexandra Horst, Supervisor, Funding: ERA EU-FP 7, Next: World Bank Sep og - Dec 13 Jonathan Gheyssens, Supervisor, Funding: ETH Zürich, Next: United Nations (UNEP) Dec 08 - Oct 12 Elena Gross, Supervisor, Funding: University of Göttingen, Next: Bayreuth University Viola Asri, University Zürich, Member PhD Committee 2019 Anna Brüderle, University St. Gallen, Member PhD Committee 2017 Marie Ferré, ETH Zürich, Member PhD Committee 2017 Deborah Kistler, University Lausanne, Member PhD Committee 2017 Marie Boltz-Laemmel, Paris School of Economics, Member PhD Committee 2015 Lea Rouanet, Paris School of Economics, Member PhD Committee 2015 Dan Liu, ZEF Bonn, Member PhD Committee 2013 Edward Nketiah-Amponsah, ZEF Bonn, Member PhD Committee 2011 Anke Weber, University Zurich, Member PhD Committee 2010

Teaching ETH since 2010

Microeconomics of Development, MAS (HS18, HS16, HS14, HS12, HS10, HS08)
Applied Statistics and Policy Evaluation MA, (HS18, HS16, HS15)
PhD Colloquium Development Economics (HS18, HS17, HS16, HS15, HS14, HS13, HS12, HS11)
Applied Empirical Research, BA/MA (FS18, FS17, FS 16)
Development Economics, BA/MA (FS18, FS17, FS 16, FS15, HS13, HS12, HS11, HS10)
Strategic Questions of Development Cooperation, MAS (HS18, FS16, HS15, FS15, FS11)
Policy Impact Evaluations: Methods and Applications, MAS (HS17, FS15, HS13, FS12, FS10)
International Aid and Development, BA/MA (HS17, FS14, FS12, FS10)

Additional Lectures

Sep 2018	ETH Zürich, CAS in Policy and Advocacy, Evidence-based policy making, ½ day
Oct 2017	University of Ghana, Quantitative Impact Analysis, 1/2 day
Jun 2017	ETH Zürich, CAS in Policy and Advocacy, Evidence-based policy making, ½ day
Oct 16	University of Bern, CAS Gender, Justice and Globalisation, Gender Inequality, ½ day

FS 13	News School for Social Research - USA, Economics, Politics, and History of Aid
Nov 2012	University of Abomey-Calavi - Benin, Quantitative Impact Analysis, 5 days
Oct 2012	Tufts University - USA, Risk, Poverty and Development, 2 days
Jul 2012	ETH Summer School, Eating Tomorrow, Economics of Famines, ½ day
Jun 2012	University of Göttingen - Germany, Risk, Poverty and Development, 2 days
Jun 2011	University of Göttingen - Germany, Risk, Poverty and Development, 2 days
Mar 2011	Bread for All (BfA), Development Evaluation, 3 days
Nov 2010	Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Development Evaluation, 3 days
Jun 2010	ETH Summer School - Ethiopia, Economics of Slums and Urban Poverty, 1 day
Jun 2009	Swiss Development Agency (SDC), Quantitative Development Evaluation, 2 days
Mar 2007	Central Statistical Agency (CSA) - Ethiopia, STATA Programming, 5 days
Sep 2005	Ministry of Economics and Finance - Burkina Faso, Policy Micro-Simulations, 5 days
Apr 2005	African Development Bank - Tunesia, Economics and Analysis of Poverty, 1 day
Sep 2004	Ministry of Economics and Finance - Burkina Faso , Policy Micro-Simulations, 5 days

Formal Didactical Training

Nov 2015	Communicating with the Media, 2 days, MAZ Luzern
Mai 2015	MOOCs and Videos for Teaching, 1 day, ETH Zurich didactica course
Apr 2015	Mobile Voting and Feedback Systems, 1 day, ETH Zurich didactica course
Jan 2012	Speaking to large audiences, 1 day, ETH Zurich didactica course
Jan 2011	Teaching at ETH: Committed and skilled, 5 days, ETH Zurich didactica course
2010 - 2011	ETH Innovedum - Teaching Grant to develop simulation
Apr 2009	Improved Teaching Communication, 2 days, University of Zurich didactica course

Public Collaborations/Consultancies (since 2009)

2018	Swiss Development Agency (SDC) - Future Role of NGOs
2015 -	Swiss Development Agency (SDC) - Evidence-based policy making
2013 -	AIDUCATION (Swiss NGO) – Scholarships
2014 - 2016	Solairaid (UK NGO) – Solar Lights
2013 - 2014	FINCA (East-African Microfinance Institution) – Microfinance
2013 - 2014	German Development Bank (KfW) – Microfinance
2013	HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation (Swiss NGO) – Water & Sanitation
2012 -2013	German Development Agency (GIZ) - Water & Sanitation
2012	HEKS (Swiss NGO) – Aid Effectiveness
2011 - 2013	German Development Bank (KfW) – Aid Effectiveness
2011 - 2012	SSWARS (Ugandan NGO) - Water & Sanitation
2011	Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) - Methods
2011	Bread for All (Swiss NGO) – Methods
2010 - 2011	The World Bank – Water & Sanitation
2010	Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) – Methods
2009 - 2011	Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) – Water & Sanitation
2009	Swiss Development Agency (SDC) - Methods

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Outlets

Metzger L. and I. Günther (2019) Making an impact? The relevance of information on aid effectiveness for charitable giving. A laboratory experiment. **Journal of Development Economics**, 136: 18-33.

Smits J. and I. Günther (2018). Do financial diaries affect financial outcomes? Evidence from a randomized experiment in Uganda. **Development Engineering**, 3: 72-82.

Gross E., Günther I. and Y. Schipper (2018). Women: Walking and Waiting for Water. The Time Value of Public Water Supply. **Economic Development and Cultural Change**, 66(3): 489-517.

Tilley E., Logar, I. and I. Günther (2017). The Effect of Giving Respondents Time to Think in a Choice Experiment: A Conditional Cash Transfer Program in South Africa. **Environment and Development Economics**, 22(2): 202-227.

Günther I., Grosse M. and S. Klasen (2017). How to attract an audience at a conference: Paper, Person or Place? **German Economic Review**, 18(4): 468-491.

Tilley E., and I. Günther (2016). The Impact of Conditional Cash Transfer on Toilet Use in eThekwini, South Africa. **Sustainability**, 8(10): 1070.

Günther I. and K. Harttgen (2015). Fertility Desire and Number of Children Born across Time and Space. **Demography**. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1007/s13524-015-0451-9.

Metzger L. and I. Günther (2015). How to Assess the Effectiveness of Development Aid Projects: Evaluation Ratings versus Project Indicators? **Journal of International Development**, 27(8): 1496-1520.

Gross E. and I. Günther (2014). Why do households invest in sanitation in rural Benin: health, wealth, or prestige? **Water Resources Research**, 50(10): 8314–8329.

Fink. G., Günther I. and K. Hill (2014). Slum Residence and Child Health in Developing Countries. **Demography**, 51 (4): 1175-1197.

Günther I. and J. Maier (2014). Poverty, Vulnerability and Reference Dependent Utility. **Review of Income and Wealth**, 60(1): 155–181.

Canning D., Günther I., Linnemayr S. and D.Bloom (2013). Fertility Choice, Mortality Expectations and Interdependent Preferences. An Empirical Analysis. **European Economic Review**, 63: 273–289.

Günther I. and Y.Schipper (2013). Pumps, Germs and Storage. The impact of improved water containers on water quality and health. **Health Economics**. 22(7): 757-774.

Günther I. and G.Fink (2012). Saving a Life-Year and Reaching MDG 4 with Investments in Water and Sanitation. A Cost-effective Policy? **European Journal of Development Research**. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1057/ejdr.2012.24.

Günther I. and K. Harttgen (2012). Deadly Cities? Spatial Inequalities in Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa. **Population and Development Review**. 38 (3): 469-486.

Günther I. and A. Launov (2012). Informal Employment in Developing Countries: Opportunity or Last Resort? **Journal of Development Economics**, 97 (1): 88-98.

Fink. G., Günther I. and K. Hill (2011). The Effect of Water and Sanitation on Child Health: Evidence from the Demographic and Health Surveys 1986-2007. **International Journal of Epidemiology**, 40 (5):1196-1204.

Günther I. and S. Klasen (2009). Measuring Chronic Non-Income Poverty. In: T. Addison, D. Hulme and R. Kanbur (eds.), **Poverty Dynamics: Towards Inter-Disciplinary Approaches**. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Günther I. and K. Harttgen (2009). Estimating Households' Vulnerability to Idiosyncratic and Covariate Shocks: A Novel Method Applied in Madagascar. **World Development**, 37 (7): 1222-1234.

Günther I. and M. Grimm (2007). Measuring pro-poor growth when relative prices shift. **Journal of Development Economics**, 82 (1): 245-256.

Grimm M. and I. Günther (2007). Growth and Poverty in Burkina Faso. A Reassessment of the Paradox. **Journal of African Economies**, 16 (1): 70–101.

Grimm M. and I. Günther (2007). Pro-Poor Growth in Burkina Faso. The Impact of Price Shocks. In: M. Grimm, A. McKay and S. Klasen (eds.), **Determinants of Pro-Poor Growth**. London: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Other Publications

Kudrzycki B. and I. Günther (2018). Improving Development Policies with Impact Evaluations. **Rural 21**, 18(1): 6-8.

Roque H., Rom A., Metzger L., Kudrzycki B. and I. Günther (2018). Research Evidence and Impact Evaluations at Swiss Development Cooperation. **Research for Policy**, ETH Zurich.

Günther, I., Harttgen K. and T. Manrique Roa (2018). National inequalities and how to address them. Summary of the PEGNet Conference 2017. **Research for Policy**, ETH Zurich.

Günther, I., Harttgen K., Grosse, M. and S. Vollmer (2017). (Eds.) **50 x 50: For Stephan Klasen's 50th Birthday. 50 Economists answer 50 Questions**. Zürich: vdf University Press.

Rom, A., Günther, I. and K. Harrison (2017). **The economic impact of solar lighting. Results from a randomized field experiment in rural Kenya**. Zürich: NADEL Center for Development and Cooperation, ETH Zürich.

Günther I. (2016). Wirksame Entwicklungshilfe baut auf Fakten. **Die Volkswirtschaft**, 3/2016.

Günther I., Horst A., Borofsky Y. and C. Niwagaba C. (2016). How to increase toilet coverage among the urban poor? The effects of information, subsidies and financing on private investment

in improved sanitation in Kampala, Uganda. Research for Policy 3, ETH Zurich.

Fink G., Günther I. and K. Hill (2016). Urban Mortality Transitions: The Role of Slums. In: D.R. Farinas and M. Oris, **New Approaches to Death in Cities during the Health Transition**. Cham: Springer International Publishing.

Günther, I., Smits, J., Terberger, E., and T. Gietzen (2014). Financial Struggling in Uganda: Who struggles more and why? **KfW Development Bank, Evaluation Update**, 2014/2.

Tilley, E. and I. Günther (2014). Mobile phones for collecting WASH data in low-income countries. **Proceedings of the 37th WEDC International Conference** - Sustainable Water and Sanitation Services for All in a Fast Changing World. 15–19 September 2014, Hanoi, Vietnam Günther I. and A. Horst (2014). Access to better Toilets - How to improve the sanitation situation in slum settlements. **Development and Cooperation**, 55(5).

Lüthi C., Niwagaba C., Günther I., Horst A., Mulongo P. and R. Grüter (2013). VIP construction in the slum areas of Kampala, Uganda. **Technical Fact Sheet**, ETH Zurich.

Günther I., Horst A., Lüthi C., Mosler H., Niwagaba C. and I. Tumwebaze (2012). When is shared sanitation improved sanitation? The correlation between number of users and toilet hygiene. **Research for Policy 2**, ETH Zurich.

Gheyssens J. and I. Günther (2012). Risk experiments in gains and losses: A case study for Benin. UN-WIDER Research Paper, WP2012/38.

Günther I. and G.Fink (2011). Water and Sanitation to Reduce Child Mortality: The Impact and Cost of Water and Sanitation Infrastructure. **World Bank Policy Research Paper** 5618.

Günther I., Horst A., Lüthi C., Mosler H., Niwagaba C. and I. Tumwebaze (2011). Where do Kampala's poor "go"? Urban sanitation conditions in Kampala's low-income area. **Research for Policy** 1, ETH.

Günther I. and Y. Schipper (2011). Impact Analysis – Chapter 3. In: IOB/KfW/BMZ (eds.), **Impact evaluation of water supply and sanitation programs. The risk of vanishing effects**. Den Hague: IOB.

Günther I. and G.Fink (2010). Water, Sanitation and Child Health - Evidence from 172 DHS Surveys. World Bank Policy Research Paper 5275.

Günther I. (2010). Econometric Analysis in Poverty Research. Book Review. **Journal of Economics and Statistics**, 230(6): 832-833.

Olapade M. and I. Günther (2009). A Review of the Nonfarm Sector in Rural Ethiopia: Characteristics and Dynamics. World Bank Background Paper for: **Ethiopia. Diversifying the Rural Economy. An Assessment of the Investment Climate for Small and Informal Enterprises.** Washington: The World Bank.

Günther I. (2009). Quantitative Methods for Impact Analysis in Development Cooperation, 2009. In: KfW Entwicklungsbank (ed.), **Entwicklung evaluieren. Evaluierung entwickeln**. Frankfurt: KfW Bankengruppe

Günther I. (2007). Empirical Analysis of Poverty Dynamics. With Case Studies from Sub-Saharan Africa. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang Verlag.

Günther I. and S. Klasen (2006). (Eds.) Amartya Sen: Perspectives on the Economic and Human Development of India and China. Göttingen: Göttingen University Press.

Grimm M. and I. Günther (2004). **How to achieve Pro-Poor Growth in a Poor Economy. The Case of Burkina Faso**. Report prepared for the Operationalizing Pro-Poor-Growth (OPPG) project by the WB, GTZ, DFID and AFD.

Invited Presentations (2012-2017)

DEZA, Bern, Switzerland. Science City, ETH Zürich. Zürich, Switzerland. Poverty, Equity and Growth (PEGNET). Zürich, Switzerland. Verein für Socialpolitik - AEL. Göttingen, Germany. Finance and Development, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany. Economics Research Seminar, University of Lausanne, Switzerland. Economics Research Seminar, Hannover University, Germany. SEVAL Meeting, Bern, Switzerland. INED conference on fertility in SSA, Paris, France. Annual Conference of Center for Child well-being and Development (CCWD), Zürich, Switzerland. Annual Conference of the Development Economics Network Switzerland (DENS), Fribourg, Switzerland.

Economics Research Seminar, University of Fribourg, Switzerland. Research Seminar, Brussels School of Economics and Management, Brussel, Belgium. Finance and Development, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany. Centre for Studies of African Economies (CSAE), Oxford, UK. Verein für Socialpolitik – AEL, Heidelberg, Germany.

Research Seminar, University of Lausanne, Switzerland. Research Seminar, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany. Verein für Socialpolitik, Münster, Germany. Impact Evaluations for NGOs, Swiss Development Agency (SDC), Bern, Switzerland. Globalization and Development, University of Göttingen, Germany. Research Seminar, University St. Gallen, Switzerland. Research Seminar, Institute of Aquatic Research (EAWAG), Duebendorf, Switzerland.

My son was born: conference and research seminar break.

2016

2015

Poverty, Equity and Growth (PEGNET). Copenhagen, Denmark. Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ). Bari, Italy. Research Seminar, University of Göttingen. Göttingen, Germany. Research Seminar, New School for Social Research, New York, USA. Centre for Studies of African Economies (CSAE). Oxford, UK.

Public Lecture, Institute for Environmental Decisions (IED). Zürich, Switzerland. Research Seminar, LMU Munich. Munich, Germany. Poverty, Equity and Growth (PEGNET). Dakar, Senegal. Verein für Socialpolitik. Göttingen, Germany. Verein für Socialpolitik - AEL. Bonn, Germany. Gender, Research and Development, Zürich, Switzerland. Research Seminar, University of Göttingen. Göttingen, Germany. European Society of Population Economics (ESPE). Bern, Switzerland. Health, Inequality and Development. Darmstadt, Germany. Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Bonn, Germany. Annual Meeting of Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). Bern, Switzerland.