Dr. Emma Nkonoki

Professional Profile

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Emma Nkonoki is an Entrepreneurship Researcher with the African Group for Entrepreneurship Studies (AGES) and an experienced international consultant with expertise in development cooperation, innovation, entrepreneurship, education and research across Europe and East Africa.

She holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Technology from the University of Turku, Finland, with doctoral research focusing on inclusive innovation and the use of ICT to empower grassroots entrepreneurs in East Africa, particularly Tanzania. She also holds a Master of Science in Economics and Business Administration from the University of Vaasa, a Professional Master of Project Management from Aalto University, a Bachelor of Business Administration from Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, and a Diploma in Practical Nursing specialising in Children and Youth.

Emma has extensive experience in project management, international development and research, having worked with Finnish universities, development organisations and international partners. Her research experience includes inclusive digital learning, teacher education, early childhood education, ICT, geospatial technologies, innovation, entrepreneurship and higher education in Tanzania. She has expertise in qualitative and mixed-methods research, data collection and analysis, policy and situation analysis, research management, dissemination and collaboration with international research teams.

As an international consultant, Emma provides expertise in development cooperation, innovation, entrepreneurship, business development, monitoring and evaluation and research. Her experience includes strategic advisory, monitoring and evaluation, data analysis, innovation and entrepreneurship development, project coordination, stakeholder engagement and strengthening cooperation between European and East African stakeholders.

Her research and professional publications cover inclusive innovation, ICT and grassroots entrepreneurship, digital learning, innovation ecosystems, technology startups, higher education, geospatial technologies and digital transformation in Tanzania and East Africa. Her current research interests include African entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems, digital transformation, inclusive innovation and technology-enabled development. A native Swahili speaker with C2-level English and working proficiency in Finnish, Emma brings a distinctive combination of academic research, international consulting and practical experience connecting European and East African organisations, institutions and development initiatives.

CORE EXPERTISE

Innovation & Entrepreneurship | Education & Research | Development Cooperation | International Development | Digital Transformation | Project Management | Monitoring & Evaluation | Technology & ICT4D | Stakeholder Engagement | Europe–East Africa Cooperation

Full CV and publication list available upon request.