

Jean Christophe Fotso, PhD

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Research & Evaluation Expert

More than 25 years' experience in the design and application of state-of-the-art approaches to research, program monitoring, evaluation and learning, and knowledge management. Strong experience with USAID/USG projects and rules and regulations. Extensive contacts in the international development research and evaluation community.

Expertise and Areas of Interest

- Developmental evaluation
- Performance monitoring & rapid evaluation
- Mixed-methods impact evaluation
- Large-scale data collection, analysis & synthesis
- Innovations and user-centered design
- Social & behavior change
- Health management information systems
- Nutrition & food security
- Malaria and infectious diseases
- Digital health
- Community health
- Maternal, newborn & child health
- Family planning & reproductive health
- Human resources for health

Skills, Languages and Geographical Experience

- **Languages:** English (Full proficiency); French (Mother tongue); Spanish (Very basic)
- **Countries of experience:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo DR, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia

Education

- PhD in Demography, University of Montreal, Canada, 09/2000-06/2004
- Statistician, Institute of Statistics, University of Paris VI, France, 09/1984-10/1987
- MSc in Applied Mathematics, University of Yaoundé, Cameroon, 09/1983-06/1984
- BSc in Mathematics, University of Yaoundé, Cameroon, 09/1980-06/1983

Membership of Professional Associations

- International Society for Urban Health (ISUH), New York, USA – President in 2007-2010
- African Evaluation Association (AfrEA), Accra, Ghana
- Union for African Population Studies (UAPS), Accra, Ghana
- International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), Paris, France

Teaching Experience

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| University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
Adjunct Associate Professor, Gillings School of Global Public Health | 04/2009 - Present |
| University of Douala, Cameroon
Part-time Lecturer, Statistics and Applied Mathematics at ESSEC and UT | 10/1987 – 06/2016 |

Professional Experience

EVIHDAF, USA & Cameroon

02/2020 – Present

Executive Director

EVIHDAF is an international research and development organization headquartered in Yaoundé, Cameroon, which provides services in Research, Evaluation and Learning; Data, Analytics and Information Systems; Social and Behavior Change Strategies. Its practice areas include Nutrition and Food Security; Agriculture and Livelihoods; Health and Health Systems. Headquartered in Yaoundé, Cameroon, EVIHDAF serves the West and Central Africa region.

Main projects completed or ongoing include:

- Agency for All (A4All) in West & Central Africa, 2019-2024, funded by USAID through University of California at San Diego (UCSD)
- Research for Scalable Solutions (R4S) in West & Central Africa, 2019-2024, funded by USAID through FHI 360
- Evaluation of the malaria surveillance system in Cameroon, 2020-2021, funded by USAID through ICF/PMI Measure Malaria
- The Exemplars in Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASHER) Project in Cameroon, funded by Gates Ventures, through AFIDEP.
- Evaluation of the malaria surveillance system in DR Congo, 2021-2022, funded by USAID through ICF/PMI Measure Malaria
- Evaluation of national nutrition programs in Burkina Faso and Niger, 2019-2021, funded UNICEF's West & Central Africa Regional Office.

Abt Associates, MD, USA

01/2019 – 01/2020

Principal Associate/Research Director & Senior Technical Expert

Abt Associates is mission-driven organization focused on improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people worldwide. Key to advancing this mission is its ability to systematically measure the broad impacts it generates across its diverse portfolio.

To support the USAID-funded Integrated Health Program (IHP DRC), with major responsibilities including:

- Provide research management and technical leadership.
- Serve as the Leader to develop, validate and provide technical oversight for the program's research agenda.
- Provide technical support in health systems and other technical areas covered by the program (integrated service delivery, Malaria, Nutrition, MNCH, Reproductive health and Family planning).

EVIHDAF, Cameroon

01/2017 – 01/2019

Founder & Executive Manager

Nutrition research and evaluation projects overseen

- Cost-effectiveness analysis of community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) program in Niger and Ethiopia; Concern Worldwide, 2018-2019.
- Evaluation of the Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement (LRP) Project for school feeding program in Benin; CRS, 2018-2020

Concern Worldwide USA, New York

03/2013 – 12/2016

International NGO working with the poorest communities in 29 countries, directly reaching and transforming the lives of about 7.6 million people (in 2015)

Director of Research, Monitoring & Evaluation

Reporting to the VP Strategy & Innovations, lead the evaluation of a \$47M, eight-year flagship program, the *Innovations for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health*, funded by the Gates Foundation. The program comprised of nine projects in five countries and two cross-project agenda (on human-centered design and alignment with human rights principles).

Selected accomplishments

- Salvaged the endline evaluation of the four wave 1 projects in three countries (including one impact evaluation), led the publication of findings in two journal supplements, and presented the key learnings at major international conferences.
- Led the design of, and oversaw the execution of the evaluation of five wave 2 projects in three countries (including two impact evaluations), and the production of a body of evidence around effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, and alignment of activities with human rights principles.
- Led the writing of evaluation technical briefs from wave 2 projects and presented them at dissemination events in Ghana, Sierra Leone and Washington, DC. Positioned four projects for ownership and scale up by the ministries of health.
- Championed internally the commitment to impact measurement and evidence-based programming, which contributed to the drafting of the organization's first research strategy, and a greater attention to projects with high evaluation content.

International Consultant, Kenya

09/2012 – 02/2013

- For **Population Action International**, Washington, DC: Landscape analysis of the family planning and reproductive health environment in Kenya. The work involved a structured desk review and interviews with key informants and stakeholders.
- For **UNICEF**, New York: Evaluation of Round 4 of UNICEF's Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) program. The evaluation used structured document review, interviews with key informants, and data quality assessment of 47 MICS surveys from 40 countries.

African Population & Health Research Center (APHRC), Kenya

09/2004 – 08/2012

Leading pan-African research institution that conducts policy-relevant research on population, health, education, urbanization and related development issues across Africa

Head, Population and Reproductive Health Research Program, 01/2008 – 08/2012

Reporting to the Executive Director, defined the strategic directions of the program, led the fundraising efforts, and managed the Unit. Represented the organization at national and international meetings. The program's portfolio included four SBC projects in three countries.

Selected accomplishments

- Oversaw the design and execution of, and data analysis from, large household surveys and service delivery assessments for the baseline evaluation of the Gates-funded *Urban Reproductive Health Initiative* in Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal.
- Led a 10-Year evaluation of the Packard Foundation Population and Reproductive Health Program in Ethiopia. The findings informed the Foundation's move from a country focus to a regional outlook (sub-Saharan Africa).

- Transformed the program from a mere collection of small, short-term, Kenya-centric projects to a coherent program comprised of major projects in many African countries. Funding partners included large foundations (Gates, Hewlett, Packard), USAID and DFID.
- Worked with US-based organizations to win two major USAID grants: a) African Strategies for Health (ASH); and b) Evidence to Action for Strengthened FP/RH Services for Women and Girls (E2A).
- Presented research findings at international meetings and increased APHRC' visibility, recognition and positioning as an African-based thought-leader in research and evaluation on population and reproductive health.
- For the first time in the organization's history, opened and managed satellite offices in Nigeria and Senegal, and in another city of Kenya. Built and supervised a team of 15 staff across these countries, mostly at PhD and Masters levels.
- As President of the International Society for Urban Health (ISUH), organized and hosted a landmark International Conference on Urban Health (ICUH) in 2009 - the first ICUH to take place out of North America and Europe.
- Developed and nurtured partnerships with institutions across African countries, including National Statistics Offices, Ministries of Health, and National Population Commissions to support the visibility and growth of the organization.

Associate and Research Scientist, 09/2005 – 12/2007

Reporting to the Director of Research, led project implementation, and supported the visibility of the institution through peer-reviewed publications and conference presentations.

Selected accomplishments

- Led a consultancy with UNICEF ESARO on a comparative analysis of neonatal, infant and under-five mortality trends over the period 1975-2005 across countries in the region.
- Led our participation in a multi-country evaluation of the impact of the global and national responses to the fight against AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.
- Contributed to the implementation of a longitudinal survey, the Nairobi Urban Health and Demographic Surveillance System, with focus on the study of poverty and health dynamics.
- Led a case study on population growth and presented the findings to the United Kingdom's All Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health.

Post-doctoral Fellow, 09/2004 – 08/2005

Contributed to proposal development, the implementation of a longitudinal survey (the Nairobi Urban Health and Demographic Surveillance System), and supported the visibility of the institution through peer-reviewed publications and conference presentations.

Cameroon National Employer's Association (GICAM), Cameroon 12/1994 – 09/2000
Senior Statistical and Economic Analyst - Reporting to the Executive Director:

Cameroon Brewery Company (SABC), Cameroon 10/1987 – 07/1994
Chief Service, Research and Statistics - Reporting to the Director of Sales and Marketing

Bibliography

Selected Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Emily Evens E, Ambrose A, ... **Fotso JC**, et al. "Africans, we know how to adapt indeed": Adaptations to family planning and reproductive health services in humanitarian settings in Nigeria during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Forthcoming*, PLoS One
- Brittingham S, Zan T, ... **Fotso JC**, et al. Defining Collective Priorities in the SDG Era: Research and Learning Agendas for Family Planning across 6 Countries. *Forthcoming*, Global Health: Science and Practice
- Fotso JC, Cleland JG, Kouo Ngamby M, Baye ML, Adje OE. 2023. Pregnancy risks and contraceptive use among postpartum mothers in Cameroon: Implications for improving the coverage of postpartum family planning services. *Reproductive Health* 20:2
- Fotso JC, Cleland JG, Muki B, Adje OE, Ngo Mayack J. 2022. Teenage pregnancy and timing of first marriage in Cameroon - What has changed over the last three decades, and what are the implications? *PLoS ONE* 17(11): e0271153
- Myatt M, Puett C, Fotso JC, Guevara E, Bulti A. 2021. A Simple Approach to Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) Programs: A Handbook. ELIVA Press, 2021.
- Fotso JC, Hutchinson P, Ambrose A, Ali D. 2020. Improved access to maternal and newborn care: Cost-effectiveness of an innovation to rebrand TBAs in Sierra Leone. *International Journal of Public Health* 65(9):1603-1612.
- Okigbo CC, Speizer IS, Domino ME, Curtis SL, Halpern CT, Fotso JC. 2018. Gender norms and modern contraceptive use in urban Nigeria: a multilevel longitudinal study. *BMC Women's Health* 8:178
- Dougherty L, Stammer E, Derbile E ... Fotso JC. 2018. A mixed-methods evaluation of a community-based behavior change program to improve maternal health outcomes in the Upper West region of Ghana. *Journal of Health Communication: Int Perspective* 23(1): 80-90
- Fotso JC & Fogarty L. 2015. Progress towards Millennium Development Goals 4 & 5: strengthening human resources for MNCH. *BMC Health Services Research* 15: S1
- Fotso JC, Higgins-Steele A, Mohanty S. 2015. Male engagement as a strategy to improve utilization and community-based delivery of MNCH services: Evidence from an intervention in Odisha, India. *BMC Health Services Research* 15: S5
- Vesel L, Waller K, Dowden J, Fotso JC. 2015. Psychosocial support and resilience building among health workers in Sierra Leone: Interrelations between coping skills, stress levels, and interpersonal relationships. *BMC Health Services Research* 15: S3
- Higgins-Steele A, Waller K, Fotso JC, Vesel L. 2015. Peer-driven quality improvement among health workers and traditional birth attendants in Sierra Leone: Linkages between providers' organizational skills and relationships. *BMC Health Services Research* 15: S4
- Fotso JC & Tsui A. 2015. Leveraging mobile technology to reduce barriers to MNCH care: a contribution to the evidence base. *African Pop Studies* 29(1): 1597-1606.
- Fotso JC, Robinson AL, Noordam AC, Crawford J. 2015. Fostering the use of quasi-experimental designs for evaluating public health interventions: insights from an mHealth project in Malawi. *African Pop Studies* 29(1): 1607-1627.
- Fotso JC, Bellhouse L, Vesel L, Jezman Z. 2015. Strengthening the home-to-facility continuum of newborn and child health care through mHealth: Evidence from an intervention in rural Malawi. *African Pop Studies* 29(1): 1663-1682.

- Higgins-Steele A, Noordam AC, Crawford J, Fotso JC. 2015. Improving care-seeking for facility-based health services in a rural, resource-limited setting. *Afr. Pop. Studies* 29(1): 1643-1662.
- Elazan S, Higgins-Steele A, Fotso JC, Rosenthal M, Rout D. 2016. Reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health in the community: task-sharing between male and female health workers in an Indian rural context. *Indian Journal of Community Medicine* 41(1): 34-38
- Fotso JC, Izugbara C, Saliku T, Ochako R. 2014. Unintended pregnancy and future contraceptive use among slum and non-slum women in Nairobi, Kenya. *BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth*
- Kimani-Murage EW, Fotso JC, Egondi T, et al. 2014. Trends in childhood mortality in Kenya: the urban advantage has seemingly been wiped out. *Health & Place* 29: 95-103.
- Irani L, Speizer I, Fotso JC. 2014. Association of couple characteristics on contraceptive use among women and their male partners in urban Kenya. *Int. Perspectives on Sexual & Reproductive Health* 40(1): 11-20.
- Fotso JC, Speizer I, Mukiira C, Kizito P, Lumumba V. 2013. Closing the poor-rich gap in contraceptive use in urban Kenya: Are family planning programs increasingly reaching the urban poor? *International Journal for Equity in Health* 12:71.
- Faye CM, Speizer I, Fotso JC, Coroon M, Koumtingue D. 2013. Unintended pregnancy: Magnitude and correlates in six urban sites in Senegal. *Reproductive Health* 10:59
- Speizer I, Fotso JC, Okigbo C, Faye CM, Seck C. 2013. Influence of integrated services on postpartum FP use: A cross-sectional survey from urban Senegal. *BMC Public Health* 13: 664.
- Speizer I, Fotso JC, Davis J, Saad A, Otai J. 2013. Timing and Circumstances of First Sex among Female and Male Youth from Select Urban Areas of Nigeria, Kenya, and Senegal. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 53(5):609-16.
- Tumlinson K, Speizer I, Davis J, Fotso JC, Kuria P, Archer L. 2013. Partner communication, discordant fertility goals, and contraceptive use in urban Kenya. *African Journal of Reproductive Health* 17(3):79-90.
- Coroon M, Speizer I, Fotso JC, Akiode A, Saad A, Calhoun L, Irani L. 2013. The Role of Gender Empowerment on Reproductive Health Outcomes in Urban Nigeria. *Maternal & Child Health Journal* 18(1): 307-315
- Fotso JC, Cleland J, Mberu B, Mutua M, Elungata P. 2012. Birth spacing and child mortality: an analysis of prospective data from the Nairobi urban health and demographic surveillance system. *Journal of Biosocial Science* 45(6):779-798
- Fotso JC, Madise N, Baschieri A, Cleland J, Zulu E, Mutua M, Essendi H. 2012. Monitoring child growth in urban deprived settings: Does household poverty status matter? At which stage of child development? *Health & Place* 18 (2012): 375–384.
- Fotso JC, Mukiira C. 2011. Perceived access to and quality of care and utilization of delivery care services among the urban poor: Harnessing the potentials of private clinics in urban, resource-deprived settings? *Health Policy and Planning* 27:505–515.
- Kimani-Murage EW, Madise NJ, Fotso JC, Kyobutungi C, Kavao M, Gitau T, Yatich N. 2011. Patterns and determinants of breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices in urban informal settlements, Nairobi Kenya. *BMC Public Health* 11:396
- Ochako R, Fotso JC, Ikamari L, Khasakhala. 2011. Utilization of maternal health services among the youth in Kenya: Insights from the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey, 2003. *BMC Pregnancy & Child Birth* 11:1.
- Essendi H, Mills S, Fotso JC. 2011. Barriers to the utilization of formal emergency obstetric care services: accounts of slum dwellers in Nairobi, Kenya. *Journal of Urb Health* 88(S2): 356-369.

- Kimani-Murage EW, Holding PA, Fotso JC, Ezeh A, Madise NJ, Kahurani EN, Zulu E. 2011. Nutritional outcomes among urban poor orphans. *Journal of Urban Health* 88(S2): 282-297
- Ndugwa RP, Cleland J, Madise NJ, Fotso JC, Zulu EM. 2011. Menstrual pattern, sexual behaviors and contraceptive use among postpartum women in Nairobi slums. *Journal of Urban Health* 88(S2): 341-355
- Ziraba AK, Fotso JC, Ochako R. 2009. Overweight and obesity in urban Africa: Problem of the poor or the rich? *BMC Public Health* 9: 465
- Fotso JC, Ezeh A, Essendi H. 2009 (2009). Maternal health in poor urban settings: How does women's autonomy influence the utilization of obstetric care services? *Rep Health* 6:9
- Ziraba AK, Mills S, Madise M, Saliku T, Fotso JC. 2009. The state of emergency obstetric care services in Nairobi informal settlements and environs: a call for action to avert maternal morbidity and mortality. *BMC Health Services Research* 2009, 9:46.
- Bazant ES, Koenig M, Fotso JC, Mills S. 2009. Women's use of private and government health facilities for childbirth in Nairobi's informal settlements. *Studies in Fam Plan* 40(1): 39-50.
- Izugbara C, Ezeh A, Fotso JC. 2008. The persistence and challenges of homebirths: Perspectives of Traditional Birth Attendants in urban Kenya. *Health Policy and Planning* 24:36-45
- Fotso JC, Ezeh A, Madise N, Ziraba A, Ogollah R 2008. What does access to maternal care mean among the urban poor? Factors associated with use of appropriate maternal health services in the slum settlements of Nairobi, Kenya. *Maternal & Child Health Journal* 13(1): 130-137.
- Fotso JC, Ezeh A, Oronje R. 2008. Provision and use of maternal health services among urban poor in Kenya: What do we know and what can we do? *Journal Urban Health* 85(3): 428-442
- Fotso JC, Ezeh A, Madise N, and Ciera J (2007). Progress towards the child mortality millennium development goal in urban sub-Saharan Africa: The dynamics of urban growth, immunization, and access to clean water. *BMC Public Health* 7:218.
- Potts M & Fotso JC (2007). Population growth and the Millennium Development Goals. *The Lancet* 369(9559): 354-355.
- Fotso JC (2007). Urban-rural Differentials in Child Malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa: Trends and Socioeconomic Correlates. *Health and Place* 13: 205-223.
- Fotso JC (2006). Child Health Inequities in Developing Countries: Differences across Urban and Rural Areas. *International Journal for Equity in Health* 5(9): 1-10.
- Fotso JC & Kuate-Defo B (2006). Household and Community Socioeconomic Influences on Early Childhood Malnutrition in Africa. *Journal of Biosocial Science* 38(3): 289-313.
- Fotso JC & Kuate-Defo B (2005). Socioeconomic Inequalities in Early Childhood Malnutrition and Morbidity: Modification of the Household-level Effects by the Community Socioeconomic Status. *Health and Place* 11(3):205-25.
- Fotso JC & Kuate-Defo B (2005). Measuring Socioeconomic Status in Health Research in Developing Countries: Should we be Focusing on Household, Communities or Both? *Social Indicators Research* 72(2):189-237.