

CARMINE SOPRANO

+1 202 378 8321 (US)

csoprano@worldbank.org

+39 328 014 2292 (Italy)

PROFILE OVERVIEW

AREAS OF EXPERTISE	➤ Public Policy Analysis, Private Sector Development, Women/Youth Economic Empowerment, Gender
TECHNICAL SKILLS	➤ Project management + qualitative research + capacity development + high-level policy dialogue ➤ Communications/external relations + resource mobilization + partnership development
LANGUAGE SKILLS	➤ Fluent in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Italian (mother tongue)
COUJNTRY EXPERIENCE	➤ 30+ developing countries across Africa (West, Central, East, Southern), Asia (BBIN, Lao PDR), and Central/Latin America

FULL-TIME WORK EXPERIENCE

Organisation: **World Bank Group (WBG)** – Rome, Italy (frequent travels to West Africa and Asia) 01/2014 – ongoing

Position: **Senior Economist**

- Lead for high-level policy dialogue private sector development and gender with governments, donors, private sector and CSOs
- Technical lead on design & supervision of gender and trade activities/components of investment projects in SS Africa and Asia
- 1 regional gender assessment and 1 trade & gender quantitative survey coordinated in W. Africa (9 countries, 24 sites, 3,000 observations)
- Lead author on gender, trade, and private sector development issues for flagship reports, policy notes and other technical publications

Organisation: **World Bank - Global Partnership for Education (GPE)** - Washington DC, USA 04/2013 – 12/2013

Position: **Partnership and External Relations Analyst**

- 6 "Learning for All" Ministerial meetings organized around 2013 UN General Assembly, including advocacy and political outreach
- Supported preparations for GPE 2nd Replenishment campaign (total pledges: \$28 bn.)

Organisation: **Inter-American Development Bank** - Washington DC, USA 02/2013 – 04/2013

Position: **Women/Youth Entrepreneurship Analyst** (full-time role)

- 1 policy note produced for high-level event on education-to-work transition for unemployed youth in Dominican Republic

Organisation: **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** - Lilongwe, Malawi 02/2011 – 09/2012

Position: **Youth Development Analyst (placed within Malawi's Ministry of Youth)**

- 1 agri-business development centre established in Southern Malawi, and 300 disadvantaged youth trained of whom 150 girls
- 1 nine-month training on agri-entrepreneurship organized for twelve socio-economic young leaders in Porto-Novo, Benin
- Supported design and delivery of 1 micro-finance facility for Malawian youth/women agri-entrepreneurs

Organisation: **EUROCHAMBRES, European Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry** - Brussels, Belgium 09/2010 - 01/2011

Position: **International Affairs Analyst**

- Contributed to position papers, technical reports and other publications on SMEs and international trade to lobby EU institutions

Organisation: **COCIS – Italian Coordination of International Development NGOs** - Rome, Italy 01/2010 - 08/2010

Position: **Research and Communications Analyst**

- Researched on youth/women economic empowerment & entrepreneurship to contribute to technical papers and other publications

PART-TIME CONSULTING

Organisation: **Italy's Ministry of Economy and Finance** – Rome, Italy 06/2021 – 11/2021

Position: **G20 Economic Advisor**

- Supported research and policy dialogue with G20 members and stakeholders on sustainable finance and related macro-fiscal policy mix
- Provided technical inputs into G20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap and Synthesis Report as well as other G20 policy tools and documents

Organisation: **CDC Plus** – home-based (frequent travels to Gabon) 09/2019 – ongoing

Position: **Gender Adviser**

- Technical support to design & implementation of project on women's employment in non-traditional roles at Owendo Port, Gabon

Organisation: **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)** – home-based 03/2020 – 10/2020

Position: **Informal Cross-Border Trade (ICBT) Policy Expert**

- 1 technical report produced on gender-sensitive analysis of selected trade policy instruments in East/Southern Africa

Organisation: **PricewaterhouseCooper (PwC)** – home-based (frequent travels to DRC) 10/2017 – 06/2018

Position: **Business Environment & Gender Expert**

- 1 gender assessment conducted, and 1 gender strategy produced for a £45-mln. DfID program on business environment reforms in DRC

Organisation: **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** – Geneva, Switzerland 10/2016 – 06/2017

Position: **Gender & Cross-Border Trade Expert** (external consultancy assignment)

- 1 analytical report produced on cross-border agricultural trade facilitation and gender in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia

EDUCATION

Institution: **London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE)** – London, UK 12/2020 – 09/2022

Education level: **Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA)**

- Concentrations: Public Policy Analysis, Empirical Methods for Policy Evaluation, Public Economics, Development Economics

Institution: **“Tor Vergata” University** – Rome, Italy 12/2007 - 04/2010

Education level: **Master’s Degree in Economic and Social Sciences** conducted entirely in English

- Concentrations: International Economics, International Development / Final mark: 110/110 *summa cum laude*
- Master’s thesis in English titled *“The economics of biofuels: a study on sugarcane ethanol and related trade aspects”*

Institution: **Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ)** - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 09/2009 - 12/2009

- Visiting researcher: Researched on Brazilian sugarcane ethanol and on impact of biofuel production on smallholder farmers in Brazil

Institution: **“Federico II” University** – Naples, Italy 11/2003 - 11/2007

Education level: **Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration and Economics**

- Concentrations: Micro/Macroeconomics, Statistics, Marketing, Business Law / Final mark: 105/110

Institution: **Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)** – Barcelona, Spain 09/2006 - 06/2007

- University exchange within the framework of the “Erasmus” Program

LANGUAGE SKILLS & DIPLOMAS

- Fluent in **English, French, Spanish, Portuguese** and **Italian** (mother tongue)
- **IELTS** – International English Language Testing System (academic test) – Average score: 8.0
- **Diploma in French DELF** (Diplôme d’Etudes en Langue Française) - Level C1
- **Diploma in Spanish DELE** (Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera) - Level “Superior” (C2)
- **Diploma in Portuguese CELP-Bras** (Certificado de Proficiência em Língua Portuguesa para Estrangeiros) - Level C1

PUBLICATIONS & ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- Soprano C. and Brenton P. [2018] – *“Small-Scale Cross-Border Trade in Africa: Why It Matters and How It Should Be Supported”*, Bridges Africa, vol. 7, issue 4, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), June 2018.
- UNCTAD – United Nations Conference on Trade and Development [2018] – *“Borderline: Women in Informal Cross-border Trade in Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia”*, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Gaskell J. C., Keyser J. C., Boc G., Cangiano C., Soprano C., Nkendah R., Arias Carballo D., Rabarijohn B. S. [2018] – *“Breaking Down the Barriers to Regional Agricultural Trade in Central Africa”*, World Bank Group, Washington DC, USA.
- Kirk R., Hoffmann B. D., Lyimo B. P., Soprano C., Arenas G. C., Antoci M. A., Hartmann O., Keyser J. C., Maennling N., Mutagwaba W., Wayne S., Mann S., Kweka J. P., Maliszewska M. [2018] – *“Tanzania DTIS Update 2017 – Boosting Growth and Prosperity Through Agribusiness, Extractives, and Tourism”*, World Bank Group, Washington DC, USA.
- Soprano C. et al. [2014] – *“Improving Behavior at Borders to Promote Trade Formalization: The Charter for Cross-Border Traders”*, Africa Trade Policy Notes - The World Bank Group, Washington DC (USA).
- **Academic lecturer** on gender, trade, and related topics at “LUISS” University and at “Tor Vergata” University of Rome, Italy

IT SKILLS

Proficient user of:

- Operating systems: MS Windows, Mac OSX, Linux Ubuntu
- Word processor: MS Word, OpenOffice Writer, Apple Pages
- Presentation: MS Powerpoint, OpenOffice Impress, Apple Keynote
- Spreadsheet: MS Excel, OpenOffice Calc, Apple Numbers

JOURNALISM, BLOGGING & MUSIC EXPERIENCE

- Freelance contributor to *“Corriere della Sera”* (Italy’s leading newspaper), World Bank Group, and World Economic Forum blogs. Topics covered: trade, gender, youth employment, sharing economy.
 - <https://blogs.worldbank.org/team/carmine-soprano>; <http://forumblog.org/people/carmine-soprano/>
 - <http://nuvola.corriere.it/author/carmine-soprano/>
- 25-year experience of **playing violin** at semi-professional level. Performed with major orchestras in Europe and the Americas.
- President of **“Orchestra Arcus Regalis”** affiliated with “S. Cecilia” Conservatory of Rome, Italy: www.facebook.com/ArcusRegalis

REFERENCES

- Ms. Maiko Miyake – Principal Operations Officer at World Bank Group mmyake@worldbank.org +1 202 213 6452
- Mr. Marcello Ranucci – Policy Officer marcello.ranucci@ec.europa.eu +32 465 499925
- Ms. Julie Leonard – Director at PricewaterhouseCoopers UK julie.c.leonard@pwc.com +44 (0) 7843333995
- Prof. Leonardo Becchetti – Full Professor of Economics at Tor Vergata University becchetti@economia.uniroma2.it +39 06 7259 5706