

Consultant

Professional profile

Callum is a consultant at Itad in the Health theme. He is a senior development economics researcher with a track record of leading complex, large-scale research projects that deliver high quality, reliable and insightful reports and data for government bodies, academic institutions and NGOs, ultimately improving outcomes for disadvantaged groups across the globe. He has four years' experience leading complex, large-scale research projects that deliver high quality, reliable and insightful reports and data for clients in the international development sector. He has worked with clients such as UNAIDS, DFID, UNICEF, IFAD, the World Bank, and R4D, as well as with research groups at Georgetown University, the Norwegian School of Economics, and NORC at the University of Chicago.

His key strengths include: designing, planning and supervising survey implementation, quantitative data analysis, quality assurance, data cleaning, data analysis and other related activities to ensure rigorous impact evaluation implementation; coaching, managing, and supporting teams of research associates and field staff, applying excellent project management skills to deliver outcomes accurately, on time and in full; the ability to present information in an insightful and structured manner, both written and oral, to effectively communicate with multiple stakeholder groups; and driving original research to influence research method best practice and advance organizational reputation.

Callum is currently a core team member of Itad's two-year, multi-country third party monitoring of DFID's Women's Integrated Sexual Health Progamme. He is also working on Itad's evaluation of UNAIDS 2016-2021 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF). Prior to joining Itad Callum worked as a Senior Research Officer for Economic Development Initiatives (EDI), a leading provider of research and data collection services in East Africa. In this role he was responsible for overseeing research projects and teams across a range of international development themes.

Nationality British

Languages English (native), Korean (intermediate)

Country experience

South Korea, Tanzania, Uganda

Education

2013 - 2014 MSc Development Economics

University of Sussex

2008 - 2011 BA Economics and Development Studies

University of Sussex

Employment

2019 - Present Consultant

Itad, UK

2016 - 2019 Senior Research Officer

Economic Development Initiatives, UK, Tanzania, Uganda

2014 - 2016 Business Development Analyst

Ingeus, UK

2011 - 2013 English Teacher

Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education, South Korea

Project experience

2019-20 Evaluation of the 2016-2021 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF)

Role: Consultant | Client: UNAIDS | Location: UK

Itad is undertaking an evaluation of the UBRAF for organisational learning and accountability purposes. This evaluation comes at a crucial juncture – it will contribute to defining UNAIDS' path towards 2025 and beyond. The need for a set of robust evidence-based recommendations to inform UNAIDS' next strategy is paramount as it will help to ensure that the global response can end the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

Callum supported the evaluation across a range of activities, including leading the data analysis of a web survey, coding key informant interviews, synthesising evidence from various data sources, and providing inputs to support the final report.

2019-20 Women's Integrated Sexual Health Programme (WISH) Third Party Monitoring

Role: Workstream Lead | Client: DFID | Location: Tanzania, Cameroon, Uganda



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Women's Integrated Sexual Health (WISH) family planning programme, which aims to reach an additional 2.9 million new contraceptive and sexual health services users by the end of 2020. The third party monitoring contract is designed to provide an ongoing critical constructive review of the WISH Implementing Partners (IPs), and recommend improvements for course correction to improve the overall delivery of the WISH programme. Itad is responsible for generating additional evidence across the programme, not just to improve the overall performance of WISH but to ensure that the programme honours DFID's commitment to "leave no one behind".

Callum was responsible for developing and managing the implementation of a series of discrete studies under the overall WISH TPM. This included studies relating to: experiences of enumerators in collecting poverty and disability data, value for money, national ownership, and evidence utilisation.

Data Collection for: Cotton Sector Development Program, Farmer Income Survey

Role: Team Leader | Client: Gatsby Africa | Location: Tanzania

This program works to transform the productivity and competitiveness of the cotton sector, thereby improving the incomes and livelihoods of cotton farmers in the Lake Zone regions of Tanzania. Each year more than 2,000 farmers are tracked and surveyed on their farming practices, outputs, and incomes.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2019 Data Collection for: A Cash Plus Model for Safe Transitions to a Healthy and Productive Adulthood

Role: Team Leader | Client: UNICEF | Location: Tanzania

UNICEF aimed to implement a cash plus intervention focused on youth livelihood enhancement, complemented with basic messaging on sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR), violence prevention and gender equity with linkages to youth friendly sexual reproductive health (SRH) and violence response services. The specific aim of this survey is to assess a Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) targeted to youth complemented by programs on SRHR and violence prevention.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2019 Data Collection for: Small and Medium Agribusiness Development Fund

Role: Team Leader | Client: IFAD | Location: Uganda

This fund is a partnership between public and private investors and aims to stimulate the growth of Small and Medium Agri-businesses (SMAs) by providing them with long-term financing products. The initiative provides financial incentives for beneficiary SMAs to access Business Development Services (BDS) for themselves and to supply BDS to smallholder farmers with whom they are economically linked. The aim of the SMADF is to invest in SMAs so that they expand their operating capacity, which is then expected to increase the demand for smallholder goods, services and labour, thus stimulating an increase in income.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, fieldwork logistics, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2018 - 2019 Data Collection for: Research on Improving Systems of Education (RISE)

Role: Inception Lead | Client: Georgetown University | Location: Tanzania

The RISE Program is one of the largest and highest-profile multi-country research projects looking into education in developing countries. Through rigorous research, RISE seeks to answer the question: "What works to improve education systems to deliver learning at scale in developing countries?". In Tanzania, the RISE Country Research Team is studying the impacts of the recent education reforms in Tanzania and working to test interventions that have the potential to improve education service delivery. Callum was responsible for leading the inception phase of the project. This included managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design, configuration, and fieldwork logistics, and coordinating staff training.

2018 - 2019 Data Collection for: Phone Survey to Evaluate the Results-Based Financing Scale-up Project



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Role: Team Leader | Client: Norwegian School of Economics | Location: Tanzania

This is a randomised control trial involving 3,500 girls attending secondary school in Tanzania. The intervention involved girls being provided with training in health and/or business skills. Respondents were also tested for pregnancy, selected sexual infections, and malaria.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2018 - 2019 Data Collection for: Impact and Performance Evaluation for the Waache Wasome Program

Role: Team Leader | Client: NORC at the University of Chicago | Location: Tanzania

The overarching goal of Waache Wasome is to increase enrollment and retention of adolescent girls and influence negative perceptions about the value of educating girls. To this end, research was conducted with girls (aged 13-19), parents and teachers.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2018 Data Collection for: Cotton Sector Development Program, Farmer Income Survey

Role: Team Leader | Client: Gatsby Africa | Location: Tanzania

This program works to transform the productivity and competitiveness of the cotton sector, thereby improving the incomes and livelihoods of cotton farmers in the Lake Zone regions of Tanzania. Each year more than 2,000 farmers are tracked and surveyed on their farming practices, outputs, and incomes.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2018 Data Collection for: Regional Administration and Local Government, Impact Evaluation of the Urban Local Government Strengthening Program (ULGSP)

Role: Team Leader | Client: World Bank & President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government | Location: Tanzania

The ULGSP aims to address the sources of challenges to service delivery by improving the institutional capacity for urban service delivery and by strengthening accountability systems. The program leverages a performance for results instrument to enhance institutional performance in 5 key areas: urban planning, own source revenue collection, fiduciary systems, urban infrastructure service delivery and accountability and oversight systems. The goal of the Impact Evaluation (IE), which involves surveys with taxpayers and civil servants is to produce evidence about the impact of greater capacity on governance outcomes.

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2017 Data Collection for: Cotton Sector Development Program, Farmer Income Survey

Role: Team Leader | Client: Gatsby Africa | Location: Tanzania

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2017 Data Collection for: Childhood Pneumonia Intervention Project in Tanzania

Role: Team Leader | Client: Results For Development (R4D) | Location: Tanzania



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Following the success of the three rounds of monitoring and evaluation research, this intervention study was commissioned. The aim was to improve awareness and knowledge of the diagnosis and treatment of childhood pneumonia via three strands: mobile messaging, visual aids, clinical mentoring.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2017 Data Collection for: Misdiagnosis of Childhood Pneumonia in Tanzania

Role: Team Leader | Client: R4D | Location: Tanzania

Following the success of the three rounds of monitoring and evaluation research, this observational study was commissioned. Portable ultrasound machines were used to determine the rate of under and over diagnosis of childhood pneumonia in Tanzania.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

Data Collection for: Monitoring and Evaluating Availability, Stocking and Dispensing of Childhood Pneumonia Treatments in Tanzania, Endline

Role: Team Leader | Client: R4D | Location: Tanzania

This initiative aims to scale-up access to amoxicillin dispersible tablets (Amox-DT), the World Health Organization recommended treatment for childhood pneumonia, in selected high-burden countries. The focus is on the availability, stocking, and dispensing of childhood pneumonia treatments in District Hospitals, Health Centres, Public Dispensaries, and Accredited Drug Dispensing Outlets (ADDOs).

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection across the three rounds, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2017 Data Collection for: Monitoring and Evaluating Availability, Stocking and Dispensing of Childhood Pneumonia Treatments in Tanzania, Midline

Role: Team Leader | Client: R4D | Location: Tanzania

This initiative aims to scale-up access to amoxicillin dispersible tablets (Amox-DT), the World Health Organization recommended treatment for childhood pneumonia, in selected high-burden countries. The focus is on the availability, stocking, and dispensing of childhood pneumonia treatments in District Hospitals, Health Centres, Public Dispensaries, and Accredited Drug Dispensing Outlets (ADDOs).

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection across the three rounds, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2016 Data Collection for: Cotton Sector Development Program, Farmer Income Survey

Role: Team Leader | Client: Gatsby Africa | Location: Tanzania

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Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

2016 Natural Resources Survey

Role: Team Leader | Client: Uongozi Institute | Location: Tanzania

This study aimed to understand households' perceptions of Tanzania's nascent natural gas industry, to provide an overview of their awareness and knowledge of local natural gas activities, and offer recommendations for implementing socially inclusive and sustainable policies in the gas sector in Tanzania.

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Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements. Callum also contributed to a published article which resulted from this research, and presented findings at the RC33 Conference

2016 Data Collection for: Financial Inclusion Tracker Survey (Tanzania)

Role: Team Leader | Client: Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) | Location: Tanzania

Multi-year initiative to provide financial insights from a household level. The topics covered include a focus on the impact of the expansion of "mobile money" – particularly using mobile phones to conduct bank transfers in developing countries – and how this affects a household's financial behaviours. The data collection involved tracking and revisiting approx. 3,000 households throughout 300 enumeration areas.

Callum was responsible for all aspects of the data collection, including: ensuring compliance with relevant protocols and ethics clearance, managing relationships with clients and teams, survey design and configuration, coordinating staff training, directing data processing and quality control procedures, leading data cleaning and report writing in line with client requirements.

Selected publications

- Choumert-Nkolo, J., Cust, H., Taylor, C. (2019) Using Paradata to Collect Better Survey Data: Evidence from a Household Survey in Tanzania, Review of Development Economics, 2019: 1-21
- Choumert-Nkolo, J., Spence, C., Taylor, C. (2016) Using CAPI to Improve and Evaluate the Quality of Socio-Economic Surveys, EDI Working Paper, RC33 Conference Paper