

Willis Odek

Willis Odek has over two decades of experience in research, monitoring and evaluation in the field of population, health and development, including technical areas of family planning, key populations' interventions, malaria, nutrition, employment interventions, and population and health data systems. He is currently a Population and Development Advisor at UNFPA Arab States Regional Office, providing strategic technical, programmatic and thought leadership in population-related data generation, analysis and dissemination. Prior to this, he worked within the Middle-Income Countries' (MIC) Technical Hub at the UNFPA East and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) for four years, providing tailored technical assistance in population and development, policy and program development, research and knowledge management. He has previously been Chief of Party/Senior Technical Advisor for MEASURE Evaluation, the US Agency for International Development's global flagship project for strengthening population and health data systems in Tanzania from 2013-2019 and Technical Lead for epidemiology and M&E of Key Populations' HIV programs in Kenya and Nigeria with the University of Manitoba's Centre for Global Public Health from 2011-2013. He has also been a Research Associate with FHI360 in Kenya (2005-2006), HIV Strategic Information Specialist with UNDP Somalia (2005) and a research manager of a pioneer intervention study on the potential role of microfinance and microenterprise development in HIV prevention among vulnerable populations, with the University of Nairobi's STD/HIV Control Project (1998-2005). He holds an MSc in Demography and Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK, and a PhD in Sociology from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, UK.