



INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON **OSTROM WORKSHOP**

RESEARCH SERIES

Godfreyb Ssekajja

*Ph.D. Candidate in the Joint Public Policy Program,
O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs and
Department of Political Science*



Wednesday, October 21, 2020: 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET

Virtual via Zoom: [Click here for link to Zoom meeting](#)

Immigration, Ethnic Diversity and Public Goods Provisioning in Local Communities

A significant body of literature suggests that immigration undermines voluntary contributions to public goods because it leads to ethnic diversity, which erodes social trust. I posit that the effects of immigration and ethnic diversity on public good provisioning are dissimilar and, that the effect of immigration swamps the effect of ethnic diversity. Additionally, the fundamental consequence of social trust consists in reducing transaction costs of institutional processes, so that we should expect the undermining effect of immigration to become apparent only when notable gains can be made from minimizing the costs of public good provision. To examine these hypotheses, I use a mixed-method research design to study public goods management in a dozen Ugandan communities with varying levels of both immigration and ethnic diversity. Specifically, I analyze community-level attempts at collective action that involve substantially different costs, that is, contributing to toilet construction and participating in litter cleanup programs.

Godfreyb Ssekajja is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Joint Public Policy program (O'Neill School of Public & Environmental Affairs and the Department of Political Science). He is also an affiliate with the Ostrom Workshop and, an Adam Smith fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. His overall research agenda is based on the management of public goods and common-pool resources, with a specific application to institutions of collective action.

Ostrom Workshop
513 N. Park Ave
Bloomington, IN 47408

ostromworkshop.indiana.edu

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Ostrom workshop presentations will be virtual until further notice. Join instantly using the link above. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu)