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**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:** Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, UK

**LANGUAGES:** English (fluent), French (near fluent), German (basic), Danish (mother tongue)

**THEMATIC EXPERTISE:** Gender relations; agrarian households; social transformation; mobilities and migration; adolescents and youths

**GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE:** West Africa (esp. Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal); East and Southern Africa; Southeast and South Asia

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## OVERVIEW

Dorte's current work focuses on young people's mobilities and migrations in sub-Saharan Africa. She uses ethnographic and visual methods to explore gender and intergenerational relations with the aim of unpacking family relations, changing gender dynamics and education-labour market interfaces. This work builds on insights from previous research examining gendered relations of production and reproduction, precarious livelihoods, intra-household behaviour and decision-making processes in rural West Africa. She has substantial experience in designing and coordinating multi-sited qualitative research with academic and civil society partners. Sustained interest in grasping how policy regimes impact on poor and vulnerable populations and in sharing evidence-based insights with a wide range of audiences. Experience in evaluating policies with a focus on gender and inclusivity.

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## EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

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| <b>2005</b> | <b>PhD African Studies</b><br>School of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, University of Sussex, United Kingdom                |
| <b>1999</b> | <b>MSc Human Geography</b><br>Institute of Geography, University of Copenhagen, Denmark   |
| <b>1997</b> | <b>Diploma Gender Studies in Agriculture</b><br>Department of Gender Studies, Wageningen Agricultural University, The Netherlands |

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## RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

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| <b>2020 – PRESENT</b> | <b>Research fellow, Institute of Development Studies, UK</b><br>Research focuses on youth and employment and gender studies  |
| <b>2019 – 2020</b>    | <b>Lecturer in migration and global development, University of Sussex, UK</b><br>Teaching UG and MA modules focusing on migration, governance, transnationalism, social change, international development              |
| <b>2014 – 2019</b>    | <b>Theme leader, Department of Geography, University of Sussex, UK</b><br>Consortium lead on qualitative research and gender analysis and Research coordinator, Migrating out of Poverty Research Programme Consortium |
| <b>2012 – 2014</b>    | <b>Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex, UK</b><br>Project: 'New Geographies of Hope and Despair. The social effects of migration management for West African migrants'           |

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## AFFILIATIONS

**2018 - Present** Member of steering group for the Centre for Innovative Research on Childhood and Youth (CIRCY) at the University of Sussex

**2013 - Present** Associate researcher, Laboratoire Population, Environnement, Développement, UMR 151, Aix-Marseille université, France

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## SELECTED EXPERIENCE

- 2023 (ongoing)** **Violent militancy in the Sahel: The impact on young people**  
Lead of collaborative study of how youth experience direct and indirect forms of violence linked with Jihadist movement in Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Cameroon. Open Doors International and IDS
- 2023** **Youth positioning paper**  
Lead of review study to support the CGIAR Gender Platform in developing the inclusion of diverse groups of youth in agrifood system research and programming. International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- 2022** **A global review of the effects of COVID-19 policy and programming responses on child labour in agri-food systems**  
Lead of review study of how the impact of the COVID pandemic on schooling, rural production systems and households affected the likelihood of children doing harmful work. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- 2020 - 2021** **Country case studies of COVID-19 measures and impacts, Ghana and Burkina Faso**  
Comparative evaluation of how country contexts produce a different set of actors and responses to the Covid-19 pandemic. INCLUDE Knowledge Platform
- 2017 – 2020** **'Adolescents' migration for work and education in Casamance', (ATEMIS-Casa)**  
Study examining the applicability of creative, visual methods in research with adolescent migrants and exploring interlinkages between mobilities, work and education
- 2017 – 2020** **Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Youth Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Mixed-Methods Study to Inform Policy and Programs**  
Lead on Côte d'Ivoire study and Co-lead on qualitative research design. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).
- 2014 – 2019** **Migrating out of Poverty Research Programme Consortium, DFID, £7,940,000 (2011-2019), Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Senegal and Zimbabwe**  
Lead of the projects 'Gender and Generation: Understanding the dynamics of migrant households' (2017-2019) and 'Intra-household dynamics and youth aspirations' (2014-2017).
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## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

### Books

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Kleist, N. and Thorsen, D. (eds) (2017) *Hope and uncertainty in contemporary African migration*. London and New York: Routledge.

Hashim, I. M. & Thorsen, D. (2011) *Child migrants in Africa*, London, Zed Books.

### Journal articles and book chapters

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Wayack Pambè, M.; Thorsen, D. and Darkwah, A.K. (forthcoming) 'Burkina Faso country study on COVID-19 measures and impacts', In Altaf, A. (ed.), *Equity in COVID-19 in Africa*, Palgrave Macmillan

Thorsen, D. and Maconachie, R. (2023) '[Children's Work in West African Cocoa production: Drivers, Contestations and Critical Reflections](#)', In Sumberg, J. and Sabates-Wheeler, R. (eds), *Children's Work in African Agriculture. The Harmful and the Harmless*, Bristol: Bristol University Press.

- Roelen, K.; Barnett, I.; Johnson, V.; Lewin, T.; Thorsen, D. and Ton, G. (2023) '[Understanding Children's Harmful Work: The Methodological Landscape](#)' In Sumberg, J. and Sabates-Wheeler, R. (eds), *Children's Work in African Agriculture. The Harmful and the Harmless*, Bristol: Bristol University Press.
- Teye, J. K.; Darkwah, A. K.; Thorsen, D.; Abutima, T. K. and Boateng, D. A. (2023) '[Negotiating gender roles and power relations through the management of international migrant remittances in a patriarchal community in Ghana](#)', *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, online preprint, posted 10 March, DOI: 10.1177/00219096231160695
- Darkwah, A. K., Thorsen, D. and Wayack Pambè, M. (2022) '[Gender blind spots in COVID-19 containment and mitigation measures in Burkina Faso and Ghana](#)' *Feminist Africa*, 3: 71-98.
- Thorsen, D.; Darkwah, A. K. and Wayack-Pambè, M. (2021) '[A feminist exploration of COVID-19 measures in Burkina Faso and Ghana: Synthesis of Country Case Studies of Ghana and Burkina Faso](#)', Research report, Include Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies.
- Thorsen, D. and Yeboah, T. (2021) 'Mobility and the rural landscape of opportunity', In Sumberg, J. (ed.), *Youth and the rural economy in Africa. Hard work and hazard*, Boston, MA: CAB International. [75% contribution].
- Thorsen, D. (2020) '[Intertwining the Politics of Uncertainty, Mobility and Immobility](#)', in I. Scoones and A. Stirling (eds), *The Politics of Uncertainty. Challenges of Transformation*, London: Routledge
- Thorsen, D. (2020) 'Independent Child Migration: Mobilities and Life Course Transitions', in T. Bastia and R. Skeldon (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Migration and Development*, London: Routledge.