



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

Forum för Afrikastudier

Friday Research Seminar in Africa Studies



# Opportunity Drought: State Policy and Youth Aspirations in Ghana

with **Kajsa Hallberg Adu** (Ashesi University)

and **Ulrik Jennische** (Stockholm University)

**Friday 22 February 2019, 10.15-11.30**

House 3, room 2028, Engelska Parken  
Thunsbergsvägen 3H, Uppsala

African youth are often unemployed, underemployed, or vulnerably employed. In Ghana, despite strong economic growth, a consolidated democracy and policies targeting youth, young people transitioning into adulthood face many challenges.

While migration is a common life strategy for youth to gain social mobility, other strategies include joining a political party, continuing the family business, creating one's own job or even waiting. Access to higher education is expanding, but not quick enough nor for all; young people's strategies also deal with the imagined future of the nation.

This seminar will discuss a proposal to study youth transitions in Ghana/West Africa on three levels: Policy - such as education, employment policies, and labor management information systems; insiders' strategies (students); outsiders' strategies (traders). As this project is in an early stage we are inviting discussion and comments on all aspects of the work.

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