# Mohamed Arafa

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## EDUCATION

**London School of Economics and Political Science**                    Sep 2025 - Sep 2026
*MSc Regional and Urban Planning Studies*
- Multi-disciplinary programme evaluating environmental and regional policies with focus on institutional and political factors impacting city and regional development
- Core modules: Urban Regeneration and Community Development, Comparative Urban Planning, Planning Theory and Practice, Sustainable Cities
- Mayor of London Entrepreneur Prize: Collaborating with team of 5 on business pitch for a data comparison app drawing on ONS sources to allow citizens to compare local services across the UK

**London School of Economics and Political Science**                    Sep 2022 - Jun 2025
*BSc Environment and Development - Upper Second Class Honours (2:1)*
- Key modules included Climate Change Policy, Development Economics, Environmental Governance, and Sustainable Resource Management
- Dissertation: 7,000-word investigation examining conservation strategies in UK National Parks
- Award for best first year results in Environment and Development programme

**Delhi Public School, New Delhi, India**                    2017 - 2022
*Indian School Certificate (ISC): English (95%), Geography (94%), Economics (92%), Physics (88%), Mathematics (87%)*
- Top Student Award in Geography (2021)

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**Planning Assistant, Colliers International, London**                    May - Jul 2025
- Liaised with 3 local authority planning departments and key private clients on £45M King's Cross regeneration consultancy project
- Monitored legislative updates to UK environmental and planning law, advising clients on compliance requirements
- Conducted site assessments across 8 development locations, producing detailed reports for senior planning team

**Research Intern, Environmental Policy Consulting, London**                    Jul - Sep 2024
- Evaluated 30+ policies concerning public health, economic development and environmental sustainability for government and third-sector clients
- Analysed qualitative and quantitative data from 200+ survey responses and 30 stakeholder interviews using NVivo and SPSS
- Produced 8 policy briefings for project manager and presented findings to 3 client organisations including Camden Council
- Co-authored working paper on green infrastructure in rapidly urbanising tier-2 cities

**Urban Planning Intern, 80 Degree Policy Research, New Delhi, India**                    Aug - Sep 2023
- Conducted field research on informal settlements and urban housing policy in Delhi NCR
- Analysed government schemes and their implementation across multiple states
- Contributed to policy brief on sustainable urban transport, focusing on metro connectivity and last-mile solutions
- Assisted senior researchers with literature reviews and data collection for ongoing urban governance projects

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Business Manager, LSE Student Record Magazine**                    Oct 2023 - Present
- Manage £8,000 annual budget and oversee production/distribution of quarterly publication reaching 12,000+ students
- Negotiate with Student Union officials, printing suppliers and advertisers, increasing revenue by 35% year on year
- Coordinating with editorial team to maintain publication schedule and quality standards

**Volunteer Policy Assistant, National Union of Students (NUS)**            Jun 2023 - May 2024
- Researched and compared student welfare policies across 25 UK universities and 15 international institutions for national policy development project
- Coordinated with team of 30 including elected officers, professional staff and volunteers across 6-month campaign period
- Contributed to planning and content development for keynote speech at the 2024 NUS National Conference

**Writer, Students@LSE Blog**                    Sep 2022 – April 2024
- Wrote regular content for the LSE blog aimed at prospective students
- Described personal experiences as an undergraduate studying Environment and Development
- Provided insights into student life, academic challenges and opportunities at LSE

## VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

**Volunteer Counsellor, Nightline**                    Jun 2023 - Present
- Provide emotional support via phone to vulnerable adults, managing 100+ contacts annually
- Mentor and support new volunteers through comprehensive training programme

**Volunteer, St Mungo's Broadway (Homelessness Charity)**            Apr 2022 - Apr 2024
- Raised funds through street collections at railway stations and other public venues
- Represented the charity at various events including the annual fundraising ball
- Increased awareness of homelessness issues in London through community engagement

**Community Development Volunteer, Teach For India, New Delhi**            Jun 2021
- Taught English and environmental studies to underprivileged children in municipal schools
- Developed educational materials on environmental awareness and waste management
- Organised community clean-up drives engaging local residents and school children

## SKILLS

**GIS and Mapping:** Competent user of QGIS and ArcGIS for spatial analysis and mapping

**Statistical Analysis:** Experienced with Stata for quantitative data analysis

**Office Software**: Proficiency in Microsoft Office packages including Excel, Word and PowerPoint

## INTERESTS

**Travel:**
- Extensive travel across India including field research in rural Karnataka and Rajasthan.
- International travel to South East Asia and Eastern Europe has provided comparative perspective on development and planning approaches across different cultural and economic contexts

**Running:** Member of 'The Stragglers' running club. Regularly participate in half marathon and 10k races across London

**Football:** Part of LSE 6th team, participating in BUCS competitions

**Urban Photography:** Keen interest in documenting urban change and architecture through photography, maintaining an Instagram account focused on London's regeneration areas