

Curriculum Vitae DIETER ZÜRCHER

Personal

Present Position: Partner of KEK – CDC
Education: Lic. phil. II, Geography, University of Zurich
Date of birth: March 23, 1958
Languages: German (mother tongue), English (C2), French (B2), Spanish (B1), Ukrainian (B1)

Working Experience Abroad

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, China, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Kosovo, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Ukraine, Vietnam

Key Qualifications

- Team leader of evaluations and impact assessments of complex projects and programmes of bilateral development agencies as well as NGOs
- Management coaching of projects and programmes, with a focus on regional development and local governance issues
- Participatory conceptualisation of development cooperation projects and programmes with logical framework and result-based management concepts
- Project and programme management in an interdisciplinary environment and quality management in development cooperation
- Institutional and capacity assessments of implementing organisations and change management
- Design and implementation of applied research projects and training modules
- Moderation of groups and organisational development processes

Selected Recent Mandates

- 2024 - ongoing: Consortium member for the implementation of the Civic Engagement Programme in Romania, SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)
- 2025: External Review of the SECO funded Indonesian Financial Sector Strengthening Programme (IFSSP) Phase III, World Bank, Jakarta
- 2024 - 2025: Team leader of the independent evaluation of the Decentralisation for Improved Democratic Education (DECIDE) Project in Ukraine (SDC)
- 2024: Support for the tender procedure to apply for a Project Preparation Facility for the reconstruction of Urban Infrastructure in Ukraine (Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation)
- 2024: Mid-Term Review of the Renewable Energy Skills Development (RESK) Project in Indonesia, SECO (State Secretariat for Economic Affairs)
- 2023 - 24: Team leader for the central project evaluation of the Domestic Resource Mobilisation project in Indonesia (2019 - 23) to strengthen ecological and social dimensions of the tax system, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

- 2023 - 24: Team leader of the central project evaluation of the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Programme in Sri Lanka (2020 - 23) to strengthen trade facilitation, organic value chains and business networks, GIZ
- 2023: Support to update the strategic documents and results framework of MSF in view of the SDC programme contribution, Médecins Sans Frontières
- 2023: Support for the development of Key Performance Indicators (KPI), Swisscontact
- 2022 - 23: Team leader of the institutional evaluation of the strategy 2017 - 2024 (international programmes, country programmes as well as the awareness and fund-raising activities in Switzerland), Fastenaktion
- 2022 - 23: Impact analysis of the working field “cross-regional competence development and knowledge transfer” of the global programme “green innovation centres in the agricultural and nutrition sectors” in 16 countries implemented between 2016 and 2021, GIZ
- 2022: Scoping study to assess the needs in the technical vocational education and training (TVET) sector of Bosnia and Herzegovina, SDC
- 2022: Evaluation of the LRRD (Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development) practice at the Swiss Red Cross, SRC
- 2021 - 22: Mid-term evaluation of the Project Support Partnerships (PSPs) of SECO's Macro-economic and Trade Promotion Sections, SECO
- 2021 - 22: Team leader of the consortium, formed by urbaplan-helvetas-enova, implementing the consultancy for project coordination and capacity building of the Urban Transformation Project Sarajevo (UTPS) during the inception phase, SECO
- 2021 - 22: End-of-Phase evaluation of the Sustainable Economic and Regional Development, Employment Promotion and Vocational Education and Training Project (ProSEED) in Albania, GIZ
- 2020 - 22: Independent Evaluation of the multi-annual programme 2016 - 23 of the New Regional Development Policy of Switzerland, SECO ([link to evaluation website](#))
- 2020 - 21: Team leader for the evaluation of the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit, SDC
- 2019 - 20: Study for the Design of an Urban Transformation Project Sarajevo (Reactivate Sarajevo), SECO
- 2011 - 19: Head of the Swiss Intermediate Body to implement the “Reform Fund linked to Civil Society Participation” and the “Partnership and Expert Fund” in Romania. This included the selection and supervision of 141 projects in the social and environmental domains with a total investment of CHF 23 million, SDC ([link to website](#))
- 2011 - 19: Guest lecturer on “logic models and theory of change” in the CAS “communication and impact assessment for NPOs”, CEPS University of Basel
- 2019: Evaluation of the Global Malaria Technical and Training Package, Phase 2, SDC
- 2018 - 19: Feasibility study for Pooled Funding Mechanism for the civil society in Kosovo, KCSF (Kosovar Civil Society Foundation)
- 2018: Evaluation of the Local Democracy Promotion Project “LevizAlbania” in Albania, SDC
- 2018: Review of the project “Democratic Society Promotion” (DSP Phase II) in Kosovo, SDC
- 2018: End-of-Programme Evaluation of the SCOPES research programme in Eastern Europe (incl. a case study in Serbia), SDC and Swiss National Science Foundation
- 2017 - 18: Elaboration of the Memorandum of Switzerland for the DAC/OECD Peer Review (assessment of the Swiss performance in aid delivery), SDC
- 2017 - 18: Team leader of the Mid-Term Review of the Austrian Development Cooperation Strategies in Armenia and Georgia (with agriculture, forestry and governance projects), ADA (Austrian Development Agency)

Major Professional Experience

2007 - on-going **Consultant and Partner of KEK-CDC Consultants**, Zurich (2010 - 15 Executive Director)

- 2003 - 2007 **Lecturer at NADEL / ETH Zurich** (Master of Advanced Studies in Development and Cooperation) on thematic issues such as decentralisation and local governance, demography, approaches to transition as well as project cycle management issues and tools in planning, monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes. Additional subjects were impact assessment and rapid organisational appraisals. Other activities included the establishment of a research partnership and implementation of consulting mandates.
- 1999 - 2002 **Resident Coordinator of HELVETAS / SDC in Thimphu, Bhutan.** Overall responsibility for the implementation of the joint Swiss Country Programme (incl. Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation) in Bhutan. This included the overall responsibility for the programme management in the domains of agriculture/forestry, education and rural infrastructure with a team of 8 local and 7 expatriate collaborators, contract negotiations with the Royal Government of Bhutan, cooperation with the Swiss Embassy in Delhi and other donors, planning, monitoring, controlling, and reporting of programmes and responsibility for the financial management.
- 1996 - 1998 **Desk Officer for Bhutan at HELVETAS** headquarters, Zurich. This included programme development and management, recruitment of experts and consultants, public relations, liaising with SDC, fund raising, and deputy head of the HELVETAS Foreign Department (1997/98).
- 1984 - 1995 **Consultant and backstopper at INFRAS AG** (Consulting group for economic and environmental policies), Zurich. This included consulting, project management, acquisitions and applied research in the following areas: international cooperation, solid waste management in Switzerland (especially the City of Zurich) and sustainable development.

Publications

- Zürcher et. al (2022): Unabhängige Evaluation des Mehrjahresprogramms 2016 - 23 der Neuen Regionalpolitik (NRP). [Link to the website](#) with various evaluation products (podcasts, infographics, reports and videos).
- Zürcher, Dieter / Meier, Hans-Peter (2017): Final Review of selected regional development projects in south-eastern Poland – A synthesis. [Link to the publication](#).
- Zürcher, Dieter / Stadler, Karin (2015): SDC EvalBrief (Synthesis of four SDC country evaluations), EvalBrief Nr. 3/2015 der DEZA
- Zürcher, Dieter / Chiwandamira, Daniel / Marawa, Nomwula / Wiemann, Juergen (2013): Review of South African - German Development Cooperation 2004 - 2011. Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the National Treasury of the Republic of South Africa. Bonn / Pretoria.
- Zürcher, Dieter (2011): Präsentation eines Konferenzpapiers an der Internationalen Konferenz zu Systemischer Evaluation: "25 years of experiences with «systemic approaches» in evaluations in Switzerland", Frankfurt 26.1.2011.
- Zürcher, Dieter (2009): Evaluation in der Schweizerischen Entwicklungszusammenarbeit. In: Widmer, Thomas / Beywl, Wolfgang / Fabian, Carlo (Hrsg.) - Evaluation. Ein systematisches Handbuch.

Membership

SEVAL – Swiss Evaluation Society, Board member of the association for the protection of the Lake Greifensee, Board member of the Society Switzerland-Bhutan (SSB)