

SUMMARY

Esther Jurgens (November 1, 1964) is a medical sociologist, who obtained her degree at the Radboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands (1990). Besides a Master's degree in medical sociology, she had additional training in research, programme management and planning. Her professional career included working for UNICEF in Latin America (project officer and researcher) and other organizations in the health care and welfare sector, in the Netherlands and in developing countries. For more than 18 years she works in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender, child and adolescent health and development. She has extensive experience in research (evaluations, impact studies, situational analysis), policy preparation, strategic and operational planning and management in health, both in Europe and overseas. In 2007 she founded a consultancy firm offering services in research and evaluations; policy analysis and development; programme development and support; and technical assistance.

Colleagues and clients value Esther for her commitment and have described her as a compassionate professional who combines strong analytical skills and a methodological approach with excellent social skills. Recent assignments include: 2013/2014 conduct of country studies (Kenya, Uganda, Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh) for the Danish Family Planning Association; in 2013 in Nicaragua – as part of an international team – conducting evaluations of health sector programmes (for the Finnish Ministry of Finance); in 2013 conducting a qualitative study into the World Bank supported 'Adolescent Girls Initiative' in South Sudan; and in 2012/2013, for the Netherlands Ministry of Finance, the systematization of multilateral support to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and the preparation of a publication on this issue.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Education

1990 Radboud University Nijmegen, Masters degree Medical Sociology

Other Training

2005 MDF, course: International Advisory Trail
2004 ZonMW, certificate course: Proposal writing
2000 UNICEF, certificate course: Multi Indicators Clusters Survey
2000 UNICEF, certificate course: Policy, Programming and Planning
1999 MDF, certificate course: Project Management and Logical Framework
1999 UNICEF, certificate course: Human Rights Programming
1992 University of Guerrero Mexico, certificate course: Sentinel Sites Methodology

LANGUAGES

Native Speaker	Dutch
Fluent	English
Good Conversational / Written Skills	Spanish, German
Basic Conversational Skills	French

CAREER HISTORY

Employment Record

2007 – ongoing	The Netherlands. Consultant (independent). See consultancy record.
2005 – 2007	The Netherlands. ETC Foundation. Consultant at ETC Crystal. Providing short-term consultancy in health policy planning and development and health systems analysis, monitoring & evaluation, health sector reforms, health care financing.
2003 – ongoing	The Netherlands. Netherlands Society for Tropical Medicine and International Health. Policy advisor. Tasks: Policy development; development of funding proposals; organisation of seminars/conferences, workshops; writing of conference proceedings and articles
2002 – 2005	The Netherlands. GKZ/GGD (Public Health Institution in the Netherlands). Policy advisor. Tasks: Management of the Integrated Youth Health Care Project: Drafting of policy documents; liaise with local governments; financial monitoring and evaluation; drafting of progress reports for management, local and national governments; participation in training and working groups; advise on organisational development and long term strategy development; co-ordination of working groups in related areas; setting up of monitoring and evaluation system
1999 – 2001	Colombia. UNICEF- TACRO, Regional Office for Latin America. Assistant Programme Officer. Tasks: Development of project proposals, plans of action; development and implementation of training with focus on: Adolescents, health, (including sexual and reproductive health), gender and human rights; advice UNICEF offices and partners organisations on issues related to gender, health and adolescents; development of a regional strategy on the reduction of maternal mortality based on experiences in Peru, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Cuba and Chile; and development of Adolescent Strategy; assessment of civil society organisations in Guatemala; M&E activities related to adolescents, participation, health and gender issues in 6 countries in Latin America

Consultancy record

2006 – ongoing, in 2013 the Sept-Oct course; in 2014 the Jan-April course	Name of assignment or project: <u>Masters Programme in Global Health</u> Location: Netherlands Client: Maastricht University Main project features: Teaching/tutoring within context of the Masters Programme in Global Health Positions held: Consultant Activities: Tutoring, technical assistance
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Consultancy record

- December 2013 – March 2014 – Name of assignment or project: Conduct of country studies in Kenya, Uganda, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal
Location: Uganda, Kenya (desk review: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal)
Client: Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA)
Main project features: Countries studies in Kenya and Uganda providing input for the development of an integrated approach and the elaboration of strategic plans 2014 – 2017; present the wider context for SRHR which provides the framework for civil society work, focusing specifically on inter-linkages with sustainable development (Kenya) and comprehensive sexuality education (Uganda); and future outlook (South Asian countries).
Activities: Desk review, field visits (Kenya and Uganda), analysis and reporting
- October 2012; January 2013; June – September 2013 – Name of assignment or project: Support to the development of the MenCare Programme
Location: NL (focus countries: Brazil, Rwanda, South-Africa, Indonesia)
Client: Rutgers WPF
Main project features: Support to programme development and facilitation of inception workshop of the multi-county Men-Care Programme
Positions held: Consultant
Activities: Proposal development, support to programme development and interim country programme manager
- May 2013 – June 2013 – Name of assignment or project: Qualitative study into the Adolescent Girls Initiative (AGI)
Location: South Sudan
Client: The World Bank
Main project features: Evaluation of the pilot project regarding social and financial empowerment of adolescent girls/young women
Positions held: Team leader
Activities: Desk review, development of research protocol, data collection (FGDs, key informant interviews), analysis and reporting
- February 2013 – May – Name of assignment or project: Evaluations of Health Programmes
Location: Nicaragua
Client: The Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Main project features: Evaluation of three health sector programmes (FONSALUD, FED, VOZJOVEN)
Positions held: Consultant (international team member)
Activities: Desk review, development of evaluation framework, data collection, analysis and reporting

Consultancy record

- January 2012 – Name of assignment or project: Synthesis of multilateral support to SRHR
January 2013 Location: The Netherlands
(publication June 2013) Client: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs/IOB (evaluations department)
Main project features: Review of support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to UNICEF, UNFPA, GFATM, UNAIDS and WHO in the area of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
Positions held: Consultant
Activities: Review of external evaluations of the multilateral organizations, report writing, preparation of publication
- 2012 – 2013 Name of assignment or project: Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
Location: Ethiopia, Netherlands
Client: AMREF Netherlands
Main project features: Development of ASRH programme, collaboration in the area of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) with programme partners
Positions held: Consultant
Activities: Support to proposal development; interim programme management
- 2006 – ongoing Name of assignment or project: Masters Programme in Global Health
Location: Netherlands
Client: Maastricht University
Main project features: Teaching/tutoring within context of the Masters Programme in Global Health
Positions held: Consultant
Activities: Tutoring, technical assistance
- December 2012 – Name of assignment or project: Evaluation of Save Women's Lives Project
February 2012 Location: Netherlands
Client: Rutgers WPF
Main project features: Conduct evaluation of the multi-year, multi-country (Netherlands, Germany, Hungary, Malta) project, an European campaign to increase public awareness on the importance of improving Maternal health and to urge politicians to meet MDG5
Positions held: Consultant
Activities: Preparation of questionnaires, conduct of survey, data collection, analysis and final report
- January 2012 Name of assignment or project: Assistance to the development of phase 2 of the UAFC Joint Programme
Location: Netherlands
Client: Oxfam Novib/UAFC Programme, Netherlands
Main project features: Workshop strategy development on the second phase of the Universal Access to the Female Condom Joint Programme
Positions held: Consultant
Activities performed: Facilitating, providing input to strategy document and proposal

Consultancy record

- January 2011 – May 2012 Name of assignment or project: Impact evaluation SRHR
Location: Nicaragua
Client: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs/IOB (evaluations department)
Main project features: Conduct of an impact study in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights
Positions held: Consultant (international team member)
Activities: Preparation of final research protocol, development of instruments, data collection, analysis and final report
- April – Nov 2011 Name of assignment or project: End of Term Evaluation of the UAFC Joint Programme
Location: Nigeria
Client: Oxfam Novib, Netherlands
Main project features: Evaluation of the Universal Access to the Female Condom Joint Programme, an international programme consisting of Research and Development, Implementation of 2 large scale country programmes, and Advocacy & Linking and Learning
Positions held: Consultant (international team member)
Activities performed: Conduct of country evaluation (Nigeria), comparison and analysis of the country programmes, report
- March – Nov 2010 Name of assignment or project: External evaluation of Hivos' HIV/AIDS programmes in South America and India
Location: Netherlands (desk review), other team members conducted field work in Peru and India
Client: Hivos (Dutch NGO)
Main project features: Evaluating Hivos' support to local NGOs in the field of HIV/AIDS
Positions held: Consultant (international team member)
Activities performed: Desk review of Hivos' programmes; development of evaluation framework and policy reconstruction of Hivos' support and work during 2000-2009
- 2010 Name of assignment or project: Impact evaluation SRHR
Location: Nicaragua
Client: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs/IOB (evaluations department)
Main project features: Preparation of an impact study in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights, to be conducted in 2011
Positions held: Consultant (international team member)
Activities performed: Assessment of eligible intervention(s) for an impact study in SRHR; preparation of the research protocol and the inception report

Consultancy record

- 2008 - 2011 Name of assignment or project: Enhancing the Quality of Care: Improving Knowledge and Skills of Midwives in Georgia
Location: Georgia
Client: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Matra Programme
Main project features: Support to the development of a professional association of midwives and the establishment of midwifery education programme at the Tbilisi State Medical University
Positions held: Technical advisor, consultant
Activities performed: Support to the local implementing organisation in both project areas (Association and Education of Midwives); conduct of training; development of research proposal (in the area of Caesarean Sections) and support to the research
- 2008 (review) and Name of assignment or project: Synthesis of impact evaluations in sexual and
2009 (publication) reproductive health and rights. Review of the evidence
Location: The Netherlands
Client: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)/IOB (evaluations department)
Main project features: Research and writing of publication on impact evaluations in SRHR
Positions held: Consultant
Activities performed: Desk review of impact evaluations; formulation of options for impact studies in SRHR; write publication on impact studies
- 2008/09 Name of assignment or project: Human Resources for Health (HRH)
Location: The Netherlands
Client: Wemos (Dutch NGO)
Main project features: Briefing papers on HRH
Positions held: Consultant
Activities performed: Research for and preparation of a series of briefing papers on HRH
- 2007-2010 Name of assignment or project: Several assignments for the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF)
Location: The Netherlands, Kenya
Client: AMREF-Netherlands
Main project features: Various (see activities performed)
Positions held: Consultant
Activities performed: Programme management of programmes in Kenya (supported by AMREF-NL); technical advisor; development of position papers (on Quality Assurance and Capacity Building); development of project proposals

Consultancy record

- 2007 Name of assignment or project: Policy review in the field of SRHR, including HIV/AIDS
Location: The Netherlands
Client: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs/IOB (evaluations department)
Main project features: Review of the Netherlands MFA's support to international NGOs working in SRHR
Positions held: Consultant (team leader)
Activities performed: Development of research method; conduct of assessment; formulation of recommendations and report
- 2006 Name of assignment or project: Evaluation of the Ethiopian Health Sector Development Programme (HSDP-II)
Location: Ethiopia
Client: Federal Ministry of Health, Ethiopia
Main project features: Evaluation of the second phase of the HSDP 2002-2005
Positions held: Consultant (international team member)
Activities performed: Evaluation of the programme, main focus on management and finance; field visits; formulate recommendations
- 2006 and 2007 Name of assignment or project: Improving SRH of youth in Tajikistan
Location: Tajikistan
Client: Care-Tajikistan
Main project features: EU-funded programme on improving policies in the area of adolescent SRHR, and the establishment of youth friendly services in the country
Positions held: Consultant
Activities performed: Technical support to the EU funded programme; conduct small scale research and support to the conduct of KAP on youth health and behaviour
- 2005 Name of assignment or project: The Role of User Fees and Health Insurance in Health Care Financing
Location: The Netherlands
Client: The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Main project features: Study on health care financing
Positions held: Consultant (team member)
Activities performed: Review, analysis and preparation of position paper on health care financing
- 1996 Name of assignment or project: Systematisation of world-wide private sector health initiatives
Location: The Netherlands
Client: MSF-Netherlands (Dutch NGO)
Main project features: Review of private sector health initiatives
Positions held: Consultant
Activities performed: Conduct of desk review; formulate recommendations and report

Consultancy record

- 1995 Name of assignment or project: Human Resources for Health
Location: The Netherlands
Client: Local government
Main project features: Assessment of employment opportunities of medical personnel
Positions held: Consultant
Activities performed: Team member involved in data collection, development of research proposal, report
- 1991, 1992, 1993 Name of assignment or project: Women and Development, Women and Child Health
Location: Belize
Client: UNICEF
Main activities: project management, M&E, including: conduct of Situational Analysis and several researches/surveys (child mortality and diarrhea survey; youth adult study, literacy study)

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

- NVTG, Netherlands Society of Tropical Medicine and International Health
- ShareNet, a network of Dutch development organisations and individual consultants working in the field of sexual & reproductive health and AIDS
- Editor at MT, Bulletin of the NVTG

OTHER SKILLS

- Excellent communication, reporting and editing skills, good team player, training and facilitation.
- Photography (photos published in various books and magazines).
- Computer skills: MS Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint), Internet, Statistical Analysis (SPSS), Data Analysis (Epi Info)

CONTACT DETAILS

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