

<b>Name</b>	Esther Jurgens
<b>Date of birth</b>	1 November 1964
<b>Nationality</b>	Dutch
<b>Education</b>	Master's degree Medical Sociology Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands [1990]



## SUMMARY

Esther Jurgens is a medical sociologist, who obtained her degree at the Radboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands (1990). Besides a Master's degree she had additional training in research, programme management and planning. Her professional career included working for UNICEF in Latin America (programme officer and researcher for 6 years: 1999-2001 and 1991-1993) and other organizations in the health care and welfare sector, in the Netherlands and in low- and middle-income countries. For more than 25 years she works in global and public health, in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) including HIV/AIDS, adolescent health & development, and in gender. She has extensive experience in:

- Conducting quantitative and qualitative research (impact, operational & case studies; systematic reviews).
- Policy analysis and programme review, and synthesizing lessons learned.
- Programme development, providing strategic planning advisory services in global health with focus on SRHR and gender.
- Strategic and operational planning and management in (global) health.
- Training and education in Global Health (through my involvement with Maastricht University, Department of Health Ethics and Society, Faculty of Health Medicine and Life Sciences) and Netherlands Society for Tropical Medicine and International Health (NVTG).

In 2007 Esther founded a consultancy firm offering services in programme design, research and evaluations, policy development and analysis, and technical assistance to a wide range of clients: governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic institutions.

## Key qualifications

- **Master's degree in Medical Sociology** with additional training in research, programme management and planning. **Other training:** International advisory trail (MDF), 2015 | Proposal writing (ZonMW), 2004 | Research: Multi Indicators Clusters Survey (UNICEF), 2000 | Policy Programming and Planning (MDF), 2000 | Project Management and Logical Framework (MDF), 1999 | Human Rights Programming (UNICEF), 1999 | Research: Sentinel Sites Methodology (University of Guerrero, Mexico), 1992
- For more than 25 years working in the domain of global health, specifically on the topics of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), reproductive health (including safe motherhood, family planning and reproductive health commodities), HIV/AIDS, health systems and gender.
- Esther is a compassionate professional who combines strong analytical skills and a methodological approach with excellent social skills.

## Professional experience

- 2007 – ongoing: **Independent consultant**, Esther Jurgens Consultancy (see other selected consultancies).
  - 2019 – ongoing: **(part-time) Researcher**, project management Maastricht University, curriculum development, research in the context of the Erasmus+ Project and lecturer / tutor with the Master Global Health Programme.
  - 2017 – ongoing: **(part-time): Coordinator** of the Federation of European Societies for Tropical Medicine and International Health (FESTMIH).
  - 2003 – ongoing: **(part-time): Policy advisor, NVTG**.
  - 2005 – 2007: Consultant with ETC Foundation.
  - 2002 – 2005: Policy advisor GKZ/GGD, management of the Integrated Youth Health Care Project.
  - 1999 – 2001: Assistant Programme Officer, UNICEF- TACRO, Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (based in Colombia).
  - 1997 – 1998: Policy advisor Stimezo NL (umbrella organization of abortion clinics).
  - 1996 – 1998: Staff member PC Welterhof (mental health institution).
  - 1996: Consultant at HealthNet International.
  - 1995: Researcher with IZO/MSO - Institute for Health Research (national NGO for research in health care issues and organisations)
  - 1991 – 1994: Project manager/researcher UNICEF-Belize.
- Experience in conducting **research and evaluations in low- and middle-income countries** (Bangladesh, Belize, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Georgia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Georgia, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia), including data collection, analysis and presentation and discussion of results.
  - Experience with **teaching and curriculum development** at Maastricht University in the context of the Master Programme Global Health and the Erasmus+ Project 'Transformative Competency Based PH education for professional employability in Bangladesh's health sector'.

### Selected consultancies

- In 2019, 2020: consultancy services for Rutgers in the context of the Right Here Right Now (RHRN) programme.
- In 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020: Assessment of funding proposals for the UK Aid Direct funding round, focus on SRHR (as a member of Technical Review Panel).
- In 2018: Mid-Term Evaluation of the Ignite Project a project implemented by Population Services International (PSI) and Triggerise in 5 countries; funded by Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the context of the SRHR Strategic Partnership Programme 2016 – 2020. Field visits: India, Mozambique.
- In 2017/18: Review of GIZ support for Comprehensive Sexuality Education teacher training in 4 ESA cluster countries and development of alternative roll-out strategies. Field visits all 4 cluster countries: South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique and Zambia.
- In 2018 (for Nuffic): Chairing application process for the 2018 round of the Orange Knowledge Programme (Bangladesh).
- In 2017 (for Hivos): Evaluation of HIV and Human Rights programmes 2007 – 2017.
- In 2011 and 2015 (for Oxfam Novib): End of Term Evaluation of the Universal Access to the Female Condom (UAFC) Joint Programme (Phase II in 2015 and and Phase I in 2011). Field visits: Nigeria, Cameroon.
- In 2013/14 (for the Danish Family Planning Association), conducting country studies (Kenya, Uganda, Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh), Field visits: Kenya, Uganda.
- In 2013, for the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Evaluations of three health sector programmes (FONSALUD, FED, VOZJOVEN). Field visit Nicaragua (team member).

- In 2013 conducting a qualitative study into the World Bank supported 'Adolescent Girls Initiative' in South Sudan. Field visit: South Sudan.
- Between 2008 – 2011 programme development, technical advice, training and research in context of the 'Enhancing the Quality of Care: Improving Knowledge and Skills of Midwives in Georgia' project which was funded under MFA/Matra Programme in Georgia.
- In 2014/2015: Technical support to NGO North Star Alliance. 12/2013 – 03/2014.
- In 2012, 2013: Rutgers. **Assignment:** Support to the development of the MenCare Programme
- In 2013: Evaluation for the World Bank Adolescent Girls Initiative (AGI). Field visit South Sudan.
- During 2007 – 2012, 2020, consultancy services for AMREF Netherlands, among others: Programme management of programmes in Kenya; technical advisor; development of position papers (on Quality Assurance and Capacity Building); development of project proposals; and collaboration on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) with programme partners. Field visits: Kenya, Ethiopia.
- In 2010, for Hivos: Evaluation of Hivos' HIV/AIDS programmes in South America and India.
- In 2009 for Wemos: Research for and preparation of a series of briefing papers on Human Resources for Health.
- During 2008 – 2011 support to the (MFA funded) MFA/Matra programme: TA to the Enhancing the Quality of Care: Improving Knowledge and Skills of Midwives in Georgia project. Field visits Georgia.
- In 2006, part of team evaluating the second phase of the Ethiopian Health Sector Development Programme.
- In 2006, 2007: technical support to the EU funded Improving SRH of youth in Tajikistan Programme.
- In 2005, for MFA: team member conducting study on the Role of User Fees and Health Insurance in Health Care Financing.

**Specific evaluation, research, other assignments for the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) / IOB include (2007-2020):**

- **2020: Development and conduct of 2019 SRHR Satisfaction Survey** (completed in January 2020).
- **2019: Assessment of SRHR funding proposals** for MFA's 'Flexible fund - Strategic Partnership SRHR' call (rounds: 2017, 2018, 2019).
- **2016/17: Review of the support of the Netherlands MFA to UNFPA and UNAIDS**, in the context of a wider review of Dutch efforts at the UN, particularly focusing on the priority area of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (study conducted in 2016, field visits to HQs in New York and Geneva; published in 2017).
- **2015: Conduct of a portfolio assessment** of the SRHR programme of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN) in Bangladesh. Field work in Bangladesh).
- **2012/13: Review of the support of MFA to UNICEF, UNFPA, GFATM, UNAIDS and WHO in SRHR:** 'Achieving universal access to SRHR. Synthesis of multilateral contribution to advancing SRHR 2006-2012 | IOB publication 2013).
- **2010 + 2021: Conduct of impact research** on cervical cancer prevention and treatment in Nicaragua (two phases: 2010 and 2011/12). Field visits Nicaragua.
- **2008+2010: Systematization of impact studies in SRHR**, including lessons learned and best practices (2008/09, IOB publication July 2009).
- **2007:** Policy review of the Netherlands MFA's support to international NGOs working in SRHR.

Languages: Fluent in English, Spanish, German; basic knowledge of French, Portuguese. Mother tongue Dutch.

Memberships: Editor MT6, Bulletin of the NVTG; ShareNet, knowledge platform on SRHR.

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