



## 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 health, development and human rights. She has extensive experience in 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 in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), child and adolescent health and development, and gender issues.

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: conduct of an evaluation of the Universal Access to the Female Condom Programme in Nigeria; technical support to a three-year programme on midwifery care and training in Georgia; conduct of an impact study in Nicaragua; a review of impact evaluations in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs); and, the conduct of a programme evaluation of HIV/AIDS programmes in India and South America.

## ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

### Education

1990 Radboud University Nijmegen, Masters degree Medical Sociology

### Other Training

2005 Management Development Foundation (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)
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

Jan – December 2011	Name of assignment or project: <u>Impact evaluation SRHR</u> 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, analysis and report
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- 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
- 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 2009 (publication)      Name of assignment or project: Synthesis of impact evaluations in sexual and 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
- 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
- 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)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

2009                      Author and research: *'Synthesis of impact evaluations in sexual and reproductive health and rights. Evidence from developing countries'*. Ministry of Foreign Affairs/IOB, Den Haag

2007-2008                Several articles in MT (Bulletin of the NVTG)

2007                      Co-author of book *'Malaria Mosquitoes and Kangaroo babies'* (in Dutch)

2006                      Co-author of *'The role of User Fees and Health Insurance in Health Care Financing'*. ETC Crystal, Leusden

2006                      Co-author of Congress report: *'A healthy 2015! How practical is A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals?'* NVTG, Wageningen

2005                      Report of the expert meeting on MDGs: *'5 years down, 10 to go'*

2005                      Conference report: *'Priority Programmes: Synergy or Antagonism'*

2004                      Conference report: *'The Agenda for Primary Health Care, 25 years after Alma Ata'*

2002                      Article on teenage pregnancy for UNICEF-Netherlands

2000                      Main author: *'UNICEF. Regional Strategy on the Reduction of Maternal Mortality'*. UNICEF/TACRO, Bogotá

2001                      Co-author of *'Regional Strategy on Adolescents'*. UNICEF/TACRO, Bogotá

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

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