

Strategic Consultant & Programme Coordinator (Profile)

Proven success championing of robust analysis and large-scale programmes and initiatives across national and global landscapes

Strategic-thinker with successful track record of coordinating multi-faceted programmes with 20+ years of experience across multiple countries working under the UN charter. Career excellence in leading short-term missions across global jurisdictions and coordinating programmes pertinent to rural energy, bioeconomy, forestry, agriculture, rural institutions, and their inter-linkages with climate change. Wealth of experience in steering design, implementation, and management of land uses and rural development projects and leading capacity/institutional development in the context of restructuring and decentralisation. Articulate communicator and advisor; adept at partnering with UN agencies, national/local governments, private sector and NGOs to drive collaborative efforts in pursuit of meeting long-term goals and milestones. Highly analytical in delivering quantitative insights to enhance high-level decision making aimed at ensuring long-term sustainability and growth.

Areas of Expertise

- Strategic Planning/Management
- Programme/Project Management
- Rural Development Projects
- Renewable Energy Initiatives/Water-Energy-Food Nexus
- Natural Resource Management
- Climate Change & Agriculture
- Reforestation/Agroforestry
- Local Governance/Institutional Development
- Circular Bioeconomy
- Social/Community Forestry
- Land use Systems

Career Experience

Coordinator of FAO's 'Energy-Smart Food' Programme, FAO, Rome, Italy

2008 – 2022

Coordinated multi-faceted FAO activities related to energy for agrifood chains and bioenergy, in both development and humanitarian contexts. Served as FAO Representative in the Global Bioenergy Partnership, wrote policy briefs on the water-energy-food nexus and links between SDG7 (Energy) SDG2 (Food security) and SDG15 (Sustainable Land Use) for the UN, provided oversight for short-term missions across Cote d'Ivoire, Libya, China, Niger, Gabon, along with several European countries, and led a 20 people team for more than 14 years.

Coordinator of FAO's Programme on Circular Bioeconomy

2015 – 2019

Acted as FAO Representative in the International Advisory Committee of the Global Bioeconomy Summits 2015 and 2018. Performed coordination of following projects and initiatives:

1. FAO's project 'Stock taking and analysis of existing national bioeconomy strategies, policies, and programmes' (2015-2016)
2. FAO's project 'Towards Sustainable Bioeconomy Guidelines (2017-2019)
3. International Sustainable Bioeconomy Working Group (2016-2019)

Senior Rural Institutions Officer, FAO, Rome, Italy

2003 – 2007

Monitored and coordinated activities related to the strengthening of public institutions while providing robust support to ministry restructuring and decentralisation, and institutional aspects of national strategies or policies. Assisted producer organisations at national level (programmes) and local level. Ensured proactive coordination of the module on policy processes of FAO's High-level Capacity Building Programme on policies and strategies for agriculture and rural development. Acted as Co-convenor of the sub-programme on "sustainable livelihood approaches in different cultural contexts" within the DFID-funded Livelihood Support Programme (LSP). Provided strategic oversight for multiple short-

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term missions across DRC, Rwanda, Morocco, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Yemen, Indonesia, Armenia, Tajikistan, UAE, and Saudi Arabia.

Community Forestry Officer, FAO, Rome. Italy

2001 – 2003

Undertook responsibility for coordination of the 15 years, 40M USD Forest Trees and People Programme (FTPP). Oversaw a DFID-funded project on capacity building on participatory forestry of middle-level foresters in Ghana, Guyana, and Uganda. Coordinated a Belgium-funded project on the development and testing of a participatory forestry training manual for middle-level foresters in Niger, Mali, and Benin. Worked on decentralisation of forest management and led short-term missions across Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Mali, and Burkina Faso.

Additional Experience

Research Associate within the Forestry & Land Use Programme, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK, including work on forest certification, capacity development for sustainable forestry in Africa, land tenure, and decentralisation in land use and forestry

Employee of the German consulting firm DFS (Deutsche Forst Service GmbH) in a EC reforestation/agroforestry project in Gabon (1987-1992) and a watershed management project in The Philippines (1992-1994)

Employee of the Belgian Cooperation and Development Agency in DRC (1983-1987) in projects related to coffee, cassava, maize, rice, vegetables and forest management

Education

'Ingénieur Agronome' (5 years course equivalent to a Master's Degree in Natural Resource Management/Land Use), Major in Soil Science (honors)

Faculty of Agronomy, Gembloux, Belgium.

Certificates in Tropical Agriculture and Rural Economics & Sociology

Faculty of Agronomy, Gembloux Belgium.

European Master's in Environmental Management, FUL/Belgium and ISPRA/Italy

Languages

French – Mother Tongue

English – Fluent

Portuguese – Fluent

Spanish – Competent

Italian – Competent