Curriculum Vitae

Personal details

Name Jeremy Astill-Brown

UK Contact details Acacia Development Associates Ltd

Old Glenburn

Heights of Inchvannie

Strathpeffer Ross-shire IV14 9AE

(H) +44 1997 42 33 71

E-mail (preferred contact means) Jeremy@Astill-Brown.org

Profile

An experienced policy manager and analyst with over 22 years of experience as a British diplomat and a further 10 years as a consultant, mostly in Africa focussing on the fields of development, human rights, governance, peace and security. Primary focus has been the promotion of sustainable peace and security in order to allow development to flourish.

Wide experience of working at a senior level with UK, European Union, African Union, United Nations, African sub-regional peace and security organisations, national governments and international and national NGOs, including on peace building and emerging security and development policies. Successful track record in the design, implementation and the monitoring and evaluation of new policy approaches and programmes, including on human rights and peace and security; and in integrated programming and donor coordination.

Extensive experience of living, working and travelling in Africa. Management and oversight of humanitarian, peace building, governance and security and justice programmes in highly complex political and security environments, including in East and Southern Africa and the Horn of Africa. Experienced in working across the Whitehall Departments of the British Government; and with other donors. Good track record in team leadership and in managing diverse teams.

Languages

Spoken French and Portuguese.

Career history

Co-founder, Acacia Development Associates

July 2009 to date

Independent specialist in African security and development issues. Projects have included (oldest first):

Guinea Bissau Work in support of security sector reform in Guinea Bissau, including analysis (FCO)

of the current situation and proposals for UK action to improve both the

situation in the country and international responses to it.

Southern Africa Analysis and proposals for incorporating peace and security into the revised

(DFID) Regional Plan for Southern Africa.

Mozambique Work to help research and prepare a strategic study into security and (Chatham House)

development issues in Mozambique in order to help inform decisions by

international development partners.

Zimbabwe Review of the British Government's Security and Justice Sector Reform

(DFID) strategy for Zimbabwe.

African Union A review of the African Union Panel of the Wise to consider (i) how it might (FCO)

be made fully effective; and (ii) how donor support to it might be improved.

Uganda Design of a multi-donor facility to support democratic governance in Uganda.

(COWI)

(ASI)

South Sudan Long term DFID funded work as the Government of South Sudan Strategic

Security Adviser, helping to build a National Security Architecture which is

transparent and accountable and appropriate to the new country's needs.

African Union Mission to explore the opportunities for continued UK support to the (SU SJG)

development and implementation of the African Union Security Sector

Reform Policy Framework.

Africa Call down contract as an Africa Political/Diplomatic Security Sector Reform (SU SJG) Adviser for the UK Stabilisation Unit Security and Justice Group. (Now ended.)

Africa Call down contract as an Africa Peace and Security Institutions Adviser for the

DANIDA Africa Peace Programme II. (COWI)

Study into the cross-border security threats to Kenya for UK Government Kenya

(SU SJG) organisations working in Kenya.

Review of the Kofi Annan International Peace-keeping Training Centre Ghana (COWI) (KAIPTC) for the Nordic partners to the Joint Funding Agreement.

Global Call down contract as a Senior Security and Justice Adviser to the UK

Stabilisation Unit Security and Justice Group. (SU SJG)

Preparation of proposals for the future of the International Military Advisory Sierra Leone

(SU SJG) and Training Team (IMATT)

Southern Africa Subject matter expert on a team reviewing the British Peace Support Team

(SU SJG) (BPST) - South Africa

East Africa Subject matter expert on a team reviewing the British Peace Support Team

(SU SJG) (BPST) – East Africa

Somaliland Scoping work for the establishment of a security sector development

(SU SJG) programme in Somaliland. EU/Africa Facilitator and subject matter expert for a consultative seminar as part of the

(ADE) EU evaluation of the Africa Peace Facility (APF)

South Sudan Deputy Team Leader and National Security Architecture Component Leader

(ASI) on UK-funded Security and Defence Transformation Programme (SDTP)

Ghana Review of Danish support to the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping

(Tana) Training Centre (KAIPTC)

West Africa Subject matter expert on a team reviewing British military training activity in

(SU SJG) West Africa

Somalia Subject matter expert on a team reviewing British support to the African

(SU SJG) Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)

Somalia Expert adviser to a Ministry of National Security planning team preparing a

(SU SJG) national consultative conference on internal security delivery.

Western Balkans Team leader for a review of HMG conflict prevention programming in the

(SU CST) Western Balkans.

Syria Interim Team Leader and Strategic Adviser (based in Turkey) in the inception

(ASI) period of the Danish, Dutch, UK and US funded Access to Justice and

Community Security (AJACS) programme.

Sudan Team Leader on the UK funded Citizen-State Engagement Programme for

(British Council) Sudan (CSEPS)

Sub-Saharan Africa Call down contract as Regional Governance Adviser for BC programmes in

(British Council) Sub-Saharan Africa

Jordan/Syria Lead consultant analysing the stabilisation needs (political; military/security;

(ASI) humanitarian) of the Berm areas on the joint border.

Zambia Interim Team Leader for the Zambia Accountability Programme (ZAP)

(British Council)

Horn of Africa Strategic Adviser on the Awareness Raising Component (Component 4) of the

(British Council) EU-funded Better Migration Management (BMM) programme.

Zimbabwe Team Leader for the British Council funded Zimbabwe Response Mechanism

(British Council) (ZRM).

Somalia Strategic Adviser on the EU-funded Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)

(British Council) programme.

North Africa Learning and Influencing Adviser for a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

(Itad) team working in support of the UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF).

Sierra Leone Preparation of strategic policy recommendations to the British Government

(Crown Agents) about how to support security and development objectives in Sierra Leone.

Ethiopia Strategic adviser to the UK-funded Civil Society Support Programme II (CSSP2)

(British Council) helping it to adapt to a changing political and security context.

Ethiopia Country context expert on a British Council commissioned "deep dive" into (First Call Partners) learning from the UK-funded Civil Society Support Programme I (CSSP1)

Yemen Political access and influence case studies for UK Conflict, Stability and

(Itad) Security Fund (CSSF) Yemen programme.

Slovakia

(Intrac)

Delivery of a distance learning package on adaptive management in a post COVID-19 context for CSOs in receipt of SlovakAid funds through Ambrela.

East Africa

Advisory team member for the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team working in support of the UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) East Africa.

Somalia

Subject matter expert for HMG-funded evaluation of the UK Security Sector (Itad)

Reform Programme (2017-2021)

UK Africa Conflict Prevention Pool, Southern Africa (based in Pretoria) July 2006 to June 2009 (Secondment from Foreign and Commonwealth Office)

First Secretary, Regional Conflict Adviser: to provide strategic conflict analysis and policy advice to UK government teams working in Southern Africa

- Worked to deliver the British Government's first systematic strategic conflict assessment of the Southern Africa region, involving Department for International Development (DFID), Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and Ministry of Defence (MOD) field level personnel.
- Designed a systematic policy approach to security sector reform in Southern Africa, including at the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) headquarters.

UK Africa Conflict Prevention Pool, Horn of Africa (based in Ethiopia)

(Secondment from Foreign and Commonwealth Office)

May 2003 to May 2006

First Secretary, Regional Conflict Adviser: to provide strategic conflict analysis and policy advice to UK government teams working in the Horn of Africa

- Through policy advice, networking and influencing, I helped the African Union (AU) develop and more importantly translate into action a credible pan African Peace and Security Architecture which became the basis of the G8 Gleneagles plan for African peace and security.
- More of a personal challenge was the promotion of a single African peace and security policy framework for the British Government (FCO; DFID; MOD; Treasury; Cabinet Office; etc).

British Embassy, Luanda, Angola

September 1999 to February 2003

(Joint FCO/DFID posting)

Second Secretary, Political Officer and DFID Representative: worked to support the Angolan peace process and management of DFID humanitarian and development programmes.

- Worked with civil society based peace movement to enlarge the space for dialogue and political change
- Promoted changes in government policy and practice by re-focussing DFID's Luanda Urban Poverty Programme to one which sought to develop practical models for wider replication.

Human Rights Policy Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

January 1997 to August 1999

Second Secretary, Human Rights and Development (including gender and complex emergencies) in the UN team.

Policy work to translate the manifesto commitments of the incoming government – the
ethical dimension in foreign policy; the White Paper on International Development – into
practical foreign and development policy.

British Embassy, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

May 1993 to December 1996

Third Secretary, Political Officer: monitored internal political developments in Ethiopia, the self-declared Republic of Somaliland and the newly independent State of Eritrea.

- Worked with government and civil society to promote social equality in a young Parliamentary democracy.
- Responsible for the promotion of UK relations with the governments of Eritrea and Somaliland.

British High Commission, Kampala, Uganda

January 1990 to April 1993

Third Secretary, Vice-Consul: responsible for the safety and welfare of the British community, and the management of the High Commissions local budget

- Provided Consular protection in a complex post-conflict environment; and during the RPF invasion of Rwanda.
- Responsible for day-to-day management of the High Commission's £750,000 budget.

Management Information System (MIS),

November 1987 to December 1989

Finance Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Third Secretary, Financial Modelling

• Implemented the FCO's first multi-dimensional MIS database.

Project Trust, Isle of Coll

September 1986 to October 1987

Executive Officer, Desk Officer and Selection Officer

- Worked as a Desk Officer on the Africa programme of approx 60 volunteers.
- Helped to select potential volunteers.

Project Trust, South Africa

September 1985 to August 1986

Volunteer: Maths, English and Computing teacher at PACE Commercial College (Soweto) and Woodmead School (Johannesburg)

 When the education boycotts in Soweto caused the closure of PACE, I ran the school's correspondence operation to enable the 124 senior year students to matriculate before moving to Woodmead School.

Education

September 1978 to July 1985

Bishop Wordsworth's Grammar School for Boys, Salisbury

Publications

"Norms and Principles of External Engagement to Strengthen Africa's Conflict Resolution Capabilities: Appropriate Solutions for African Problems" Chapter in "Africa's Peacemaker? Lessons from South African Conflict Mediation", Edited by Kurt Shillinger; Published 2009 by Fanele, South Africa

"The Anatomy of an African Peace Process", Cranfield University, 2007

"Mozambique: Balancing Development, Politics and Security" – with Markus Weimer, published by Chatham House, August 2010

"South Sudan's Slide into Conflict: Revisting the Past and Reassessing Partnerships", published by Chatham House, 2014

Papers

"Weapons Influx to Somalia: The international embargo and the role of neighbouring states". Given to an Expert Meeting on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Horn of Africa, 3-4 September 2009. (Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.)

"Peacekeeping in the Horn of Africa." Given to a Sub Regional Consultation on Peace and Security Challenges in the Horn of Africa, 23-24 November 2009. (Inter Africa Group.)

"Piracy, Maritime Operations, State-building and Partnerships." Given as part of Joint Mission Preparation for the UK command of the European Union anti-piracy taskforce in the Gulf of Aden – Op ATALANTA, 11 January 2010. (Royal Navy.)

"Drivers of African Instability." Given as part of a series of strategic studies seminars for the South African National War College, the Botswana Staff College and for the Steering Group preparing a National Security Strategy for Botswana, 23-26 March 2010. (British Peace Support Team.)

"Keeping South Sudan's peace into the future: Security sector reform in South Sudan." Given as part of a seminar at the South African National War College entitled Peacekeeping in the Two Sudans, 21 September 2011. (British Peace Support Team.)

"The Role of the AU in Post-Conflict Reconstruction: The experience of South Sudan." Given to a US Department of State seminar on working with the African Union. Addis Ababa, February 2012

"The African Union at Fifty: Peace and Security", media comment for Chatham House. London 11 May 2013.