

Curriculum Vitae

Personal details

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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; in integrated programming and donor coordination; and the use of advocacy.

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 (FCO)	Work in support of security sector reform in Guinea Bissau, including analysis of the current situation and proposals for UK action to improve both the situation in the country and international responses to it.
Southern Africa (DFID)	Analysis and proposals for incorporating peace and security into the revised Regional Plan for Southern Africa.
Mozambique (Chatham House)	Work to help research and prepare a strategic study into security and development issues in Mozambique in order to help inform decisions by international development partners.
Zimbabwe (DFID)	Review of the British Government's Security and Justice Sector Reform strategy for Zimbabwe.
African Union (FCO)	A review of the African Union Panel of the Wise to consider (i) how it might be made fully effective; and (ii) how donor support to it might be improved.
Uganda (COWI)	Design of a multi-donor facility to support democratic governance in Uganda.
South Sudan (ASI)	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 (SU SJG)	Mission to explore the opportunities for continued UK support to the development and implementation of the African Union Security Sector Reform Policy Framework.
Africa (SU SJG)	<i>Call down contract</i> as an Africa Political/Diplomatic Security Sector Reform Adviser for the UK Stabilisation Unit Security and Justice Group. (Now ended.)
Africa (COWI)	<i>Call down contract</i> as an Africa Peace and Security Institutions Adviser for the DANIDA Africa Peace Programme II.
Kenya (SU SJG)	Study into the cross-border security threats to Kenya for UK Government organisations working in Kenya.
Ghana (COWI)	Review of the Kofi Annan International Peace-keeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) for the Nordic partners to the Joint Funding Agreement.
Global (SU SJG)	Call down contract as a Senior Security and Justice Adviser to the UK Stabilisation Unit Security and Justice Group.
Sierra Leone (SU SJG)	Preparation of proposals for the future of the International Military Advisory and Training Team (IMATT)
Southern Africa (SU SJG)	Subject matter expert on a team reviewing the British Peace Support Team (BPST) – South Africa
East Africa (SU SJG)	Subject matter expert on a team reviewing the British Peace Support Team (BPST) – East Africa
Somaliland (SU SJG)	Scoping work for the establishment of a security sector development programme in Somaliland.

EU/Africa (ADE)	Facilitator and subject matter expert for a consultative seminar as part of the EU evaluation of the Africa Peace Facility (APF)
South Sudan (ASI)	Deputy Team Leader and National Security Architecture Component Leader on UK-funded Security and Defence Transformation Programme (SDTP)
Ghana (Tana)	Review of Danish support to the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)
West Africa (SU SJG)	Subject matter expert on a team reviewing British military training activity in West Africa
Somalia (SU SJG)	Subject matter expert on a team reviewing British support to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)
Somalia (SU SJG)	Expert adviser to a Ministry of National Security planning team preparing a national consultative conference on internal security delivery.
Western Balkans (SU CST)	Team leader for a review of HMG conflict prevention programming in the Western Balkans.
Syria (ASI)	Interim Team Leader and Strategic Adviser (based in Turkey) in the inception period of the Danish, Dutch, UK and US funded Access to Justice and Community Security (AJACS) programme.
Sudan (British Council)	Team Leader on the UK funded Citizen-State Engagement Programme for Sudan (CSEPS)
Sub-Saharan Africa (British Council)	Call down contract as Regional Governance Adviser for BC programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa
Jordan/Syria (ASI)	Lead consultant analysing the stabilisation needs (political; military/security; humanitarian) of the Berm areas on the joint border.
Zambia (British Council)	Interim Team Leader for the Zambia Accountability Programme (ZAP)
Horn of Africa (British Council)	Strategic Adviser on the Awareness Raising Component (Component 4) of the EU-funded Better Migration Management (BMM) programme.
Zimbabwe (British Council)	Team Leader for the British Council funded Zimbabwe Response Mechanism (ZRM).
Somalia (British Council)	Strategic Adviser on the EU-funded Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) programme.
North Africa (Itad)	Learning and Influencing Adviser for a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team working in support of the UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF).
Sierra Leone (Crown Agents)	Preparation of strategic policy recommendations to the British Government about how to support security and development objectives in Sierra Leone.
Ethiopia (British Council)	Strategic adviser to the UK-funded Civil Society Support Programme II (CSSP2) helping it to adapt to a changing political and security context.
Ethiopia (First Call Partners)	Country context expert on a British Council commissioned “deep dive” into learning from the UK-funded Civil Society Support Programme I (CSSP1)
Yemen (Itad)	Political access and influence case studies for UK Conflict, Stability and 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 (Itad)	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 (Itad)	Subject matter expert for HMG-funded evaluation of the UK Security Sector Reform Programme (2017-2021)
Pakistan (Itad)	Advisory team member for the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team working in support of the UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) for Pakistan.
Jordan (Itad)	Development and implementation of tools to measure political access and influence for UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) supported programmes.
Global (Intrac)	Development and delivery of a commercially available learning package on adaptive management for CSOs, donors and project implementors.
Somalia (Itad)	Planning support to the development of UK funded security sector reform programmes in Somalia, with an emphasis on the sustainable promotion of behaviour change developed through improved access and influence.
Somalia (Tetra Tech)	Learning Adviser for the UK funded Somalia Security and Justice Programme (SSJP), introducing a learning culture and learning tools to enhance the delivery and effect of the programme with and through local partners.
Ethiopia (British Council)	Interim Team Leader for the multi-donor funded Civil Society Support Programme II (CSSP2) during a period of transition for both the programme and Ethiopia. Supporting a strategic review of programme purpose and methodology in the context of Coronavirus, considerable political tension in Ethiopia and regional insecurity.

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) May 2003 to May 2006
(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 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, January 1997 to August 1999
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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),
Finance Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office****November 1987 to December 1989**

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: Revisiting 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.