

Philip Knight CV

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Summary

A specialist in spatial information systems with a background in management and surveying and experience of working in international development.

Professional Experience

Freelance Geospatial Information Management Specialist

Nov. 2016 – Present

In November 2016 I relocated with my family to Vientiane, Laos PDR. To date I have developed the following freelance opportunities in the Development and environment sectors:

GIS Specialist, CAWA project, FAO Laos

Ongoing

The CAWA project is to designed help local communities in two important wetland areas of Lao PDR to adapt to the impacts of climate change. In my role I have worked closely with representatives of the Laos Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment at the national, provincial and district level as well as FAO staff and project partners (IUCN) to build capacity in GIS and information management. I have developed a range of data collection tools. Identified 150 discrete data sets relevant to the wetland via 17 different providers. Compiled both online and offline spatial databases and carried out analyses of agricultural encroachment and water distribution. The role provides with a particularly valuable insight into the Laos context, particularly working with the Government of Laos.

River Ecological Sensitivity Multi-Criteria Assessments, Various Clients

2017

Working closely with a wetlands specialist I developed a methodology to classify river reaches for ecological sensitivity. The method combines data on hydrology, species distribution, protected areas and forest cover to create a sensitivity score for each section of river. Alongside this a pressure score was calculated including factors such as irrigation and hydro-power dams, population, agriculture and mining. To date sensitivity analysis have been carried out for the Nam Ou basin in Laos (International Finance Corporation (IFC) Nam Ou Basin Profile), the Sekong, Sesan and Sre Pok basins in Laos Cambodia and Vietnam (IUCN 3 S Nexus Project and Natural Heritage Institute) and for all the rivers in Myanmar (IFC Strategic Hydropower Assessment).

Eastern Plains Landscape Ecosystem Services Valuation, WWF Cambodia

Sept.-Nov. 2017

This study analysed the watersheds of the Eastern Plains Landscape in Cambodia to show the type of ecosystem services and economic value that they provide to downstream stakeholders and users. I provided cartographic services, producing 16 maps for publication plus analyses on rates of deforestation, predicted land cover change due to economic land concessions and estimated flood extents.

Senior Consultant, ConsultingWhere Ltd.

Nov. 2013 – Oct. 2016

I provided advice to a range of global, national and local clients to improve geospatial data management processes and implement best practice. This involved in depth consultation, desk based research and writing strategy and policy documents. I was also been closely involved in a several cost benefit and economic value studies of national level spatial data initiatives.

Projects I led:

- Action Against Hunger UK: mapping information flows through the Global Nutrition Cluster to inform the development of an Information Management Toolkit.
- Ordnance Survey: researched and authored white paper on the role of location data in the integration of health and social care in the UK.
- UNICEF Somalia, contracted under Mannion Daniels: feasibility study and action plan for incorporating spatial data into the nascent Somali Health Management Information System.
- Jisc: developed detailed specification for retendering of UK academic sector's geospatial data portal.
- South Downs National Park Authority: maps audit of cultural heritage assets.
- West Dorset and Weymouth and Portland Partnership: strategic review of all GIS and related activities within the newly combined local authority.

Projects I contributed to:

- GeoPlace: carried out analysis, research, interviews and workshops for a comprehensive cost benefit analysis of the UK's national address database.
- National Center for Statistics and Information (Oman): series of structured stakeholder interviews to estimate the benefit of a proposed National Address Database.
- Eurogeographics: researched potential applications of new European mapping product and estimated economic value of data across a number of sectors.
- Land Information New Zealand: collated and evaluated case studies of successful Open Data applications in New Zealand.
- New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage: Spatial Strategy: collated and summarised the spatial strategies of international exemplar agencies for benchmarking.
- Multinational Software Provider: assessment of the maturity of the spatial data infrastructures of multiple countries.
- Land Information New Zealand: produced and presented a report on the use of open geospatial web services for interoperability.
- Natural Resources Canada: geospatial market research in Asia, Africa and South America

Head of Operations, International Medical Group

2010 – 2012

In 2010 I moved to Kampala, Uganda to work with the International Medical Group (IMG). Initially I assisted the CEO with developing business plans for joint ventures and in negotiations for a private equity deal. I rapidly accumulated responsibility and was promoted onto the board of management with responsibility for the operations department.

Technical Surveyor, BNP Paribas Real Estate

2005 – 2010

My role with BNP Paribas Real Estate (BNPPRE) was my first significant professional assignment. During my time with BNPPRE I completed a distance learning diploma in surveying and was part of the account management team for one of the firm's key clients.

Qualifications

- MSc, Applied Geographic Information Systems, University of the West of England
 - Awarded Distinction and Received the Dean's Award for Academic Excellence
 - Thesis resulted in co-author credit in two academic publications (PLOS Medicine, Malaria Journal)
- Diploma, Surveying Practice, College of Estate Management
- BSc, Marine Biology, University of Wales Swansea
- Summer School: Open Web Services and Web Map Applications, University of Girona