

## Gregor Herda

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**E-mail:** [gregorherda@gmail.com](mailto:gregorherda@gmail.com) / [Herda-G@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:Herda-G@ulster.ac.uk) – **Websites:** [gregorhd.github.io](https://gregorhd.github.io) / [github.com/gregorhd](https://github.com/gregorhd)

**International experience:** German national - resided in China (4.5 yrs.), Ireland (4 yrs.), Kenya (2.75 yrs.), India (8 mos.)

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**GIS/Remote Sensing – Infrastructure – Urban Planning – Green & Social Housing – Public Financial Management**  
Brings a multi-disciplinary, detail-oriented perspective to geospatial analysis, infrastructure and urban development

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## Professional Experience

### 01.2022 – present **GAF AG – Munich, Germany**

*Project Task Manager – EO-based Urban Planning and Development*

- Implementing Earth Observation (EO) projects related to urban planning and development

### 03.2021 – 06.2021 **World Bank Group/IFC – Headquarters (Washington, D.C.) and Nigeria Country Office (Abuja)**

*Consultant (home-based)*

- Developed a Lagos/Nigeria solid waste management sector brief and firm ToR incl. database design

### 11.2019 – 09.2020 **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) – Beijing, China**

*Investment Operations Specialist (Urban WASH, Housing, Transport and Solid Waste Management)*

- Lead and co-lead urban infrastructure projects in South and South-East Asia, e.g. as:
  - Project team leader: Andhra Pradesh Urban Water Supply and Septage Management Improvement Project (USD400 m, implementation, providing WASH infrastructure for 50 towns)
  - Project team leader: Colombo Urban Regeneration Project (USD200 m, implementation phase: construction of social housing for 5,500 households and PPP land redevelopment)
  - Back-up team leader: Mumbai Urban Transport Project 3 (USD500 m, implementation phase, covering track extension, trespass control, station development, and technical assistance)
  - Back-up team leader: Mumbai Urban Transport Project 3A-1 (USD500 m, preparation, covering communications-based train control (CBTC), station development, and technical assistance)

### 11.2017 - 11.2019 **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) – Beijing, China**

*Young Professional*

- Prepared and implemented projects covering low-income housing, Bus Rapid Transit; light rail; multi-sectoral urban, rural, and tourism infrastructure; solid waste management; and building retrofits in Central, South, and South East Asia with wide-ranging responsibilities including:
  - evaluating project alignment with local, regional and national development plans;
  - due diligence and drafting of project documents during all stages of the project cycle;
  - conducting economic and financial analyses of project proposals;
  - evaluation of technical designs, environmental and social safeguards, procurement and implementation arrangements, results frameworks, and counterparty integrity;
  - improvement of project design, including through independent engagement with clients;
  - managing individual consultants and consulting firms;
- Supported the Risk Management Department's compliance work on Know Your Counterparty (KYC), Anti-Money-Laundering, and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT).

### 03.2017 – 10.2017 **UN-Habitat, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific – New Delhi, India**

*Regional Housing Advisor for UN-Habitat India, Sri Lanka, and Afghanistan Country Offices*

- Coordinated India's draft *National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy 2017* and, *inter alia*, lead a National Housing Programme proposal for Afghanistan all in close collaboration with line ministries.

### 11.2014 – 03.2017 **UN-Habitat, Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch, Housing Unit – Nairobi, Kenya**

*Consultant, Sustainable Housing*

- Prepared, and participated in, global fora (e.g. COP21-23, Habitat III/New Urban Agenda, WSBE)
- Housing Lead for the 10YFP Sustainable Building and Construction program, coordinator for the Global Network for Sustainable Housing, and lead for development of SDG Target 11.c metadata
- Advised on national housing policies and housing sector profiles for several Sub-Saharan African countries as well as Afghanistan.
- Advised for the "[Mainstreaming Sustainable Social Housing in India](#)" project

06.2014 – 10.2014 **UN-Habitat, Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch, Housing Unit – Nairobi, Kenya**  
*Intern, Sustainable Housing*

09.2008 – 09.2012 **2 years each working as a lecturer/interpreter in Taiyuan, China, and translator in Cork, Ireland**

## Education

- 09.2020 – 09.2021 Master of Science in Geographic Information Systems (Distinction)**  
Ulster University, United Kingdom
- **Modules:** Principles of GIS, Spatial Data Management, Introduction to Remote Sensing, GIS Databases, Spatial Analysis and Modeling, Web-based GIS, GIS for Environmental Management, Programming for GIS and Remote Sensing (all modules completed with distinction)
  - **MSc Thesis Topic:** “Python for Smarter Cities: Comparison of Python libraries for static and interactive visualisations of large vector data” (OSNI Award for Outstanding Contribution to GIS)
- 09.2019 Fitch-led Credit and Investment Program, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank**
- **Modules:** Financial Statement Analysis, Sovereign and Country Risk, Corporate Credit Analysis, Corporate Rating Methodology, Financial Modeling
- 08.2016 – 12.2018 Post-Graduate Diploma in Public Financial Management (ACCA-endorsed)**  
Centre for Financial and Management Studies, SOAS, University of London, United Kingdom
- **Modules:** Revenue (*tax policy and administration, local revenues, budget deficits and national debt, foreign aid*); Privatisation and Public-Private Partnerships; Planning and Performance (*budgeting, costing, budget execution, accounting & reporting, performance monitoring*); International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS)
- 11.2015 Post-Graduate Diploma in Developing Social Housing Projects**  
Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS), Erasmus University Rotterdam
- **Modules:** Housing needs assessments; housing design and human settlements planning; social housing policy and programmes; finance, management and maintenance of social housing, including subsidies and PPPs, performance contracting, and institution building; land economics
- 09.2012 – 05.2014 Masters in Planning and Sustainable Development (MPlan) (RTPI-accredited)**  
Centre for Planning Education and Research (CPER), University College Cork, Ireland
- **Awards and Results:** Full Taught Masters Scholarship; Second Class Honours, Grade 1
  - **Modules (*inter alia*):** Housing, Social Change and Community Needs; Plan-making and Forward Planning Skills; Spatial Planning for Cities and Regions; Drawing, Spatial Data and Observation Skills; Urban Design; Property, Sustainable Growth and Enterprise
- 2005 – 2008 Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Studies (Sinology) and English Studies**  
Ruhr-Universität Bochum – Bochum, Germany
- **Results:** First Class Honours

## Complementary Education

- Computer Skills** Microsoft Office 365 – QGIS, ArcGIS Pro – Python (analysis and visualisations, [GitHub profile](#)) – PostgreSQL, PostGIS – GeoServer, OpenLayers – SNAP (ESA)/GEE/ERDAS IMAGINE – JASP/SPSS
- **MOOC Certificates:** [Advanced Topics in SQL](#) (StanfordOnline), [Python/PostgreSQL](#) (Teclado)
- Languages** **German:** Native; **English:** Native speaker equivalent; **Chinese:** HSK Grade Level 7; **French:** Basic

## Publications

- 2014** Dwyer, B. and Herda, G. (2014) ‘Can the planning system assist in promoting the uptake of CHP in residential or commercial developments in Ireland?’. *Pleanáil: Journal of the Irish Planning Institute*, Issue 20, Winter 2014.
- 2017** UN-Habitat (2017) [Building Sustainability Assessment and Benchmarking](#). [Lead author]
- 2017** Herda, G., Sangori, R. and Bock, M.C.D. (2017) ‘[Low cost, low carbon, but no data: Kenya's struggle to develop the availability of performance data for building products](#)’.
- 2017** Herda et al. (2017) [Sustainable social housing in India: definition, challenges and opportunities](#).

## Referees

Contact details for references are provided upon request.