

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Details

Name: **Jane Handal** *PhD, MA, DipPl, BSc*
Address: Dammstrasse 16, CH-8810 Horgen, Switzerland
Tel: +41 (0)43 539 8671; Mob: +41 (0)78 668 9018
E-Mail: janehandal@hotmail.com
Marital Status: Married; No. of children: 1
Nationality: British

Core Competencies

A performance driven and entrepreneurial executive director with a focus on economic and social development. Has a track record in maximising business and programme start-ups in highly complex settings through her creativity, management and strategic planning skills with proven ability to achieve all goals. A professional competency in structuring policy from practice, designing monitoring and evaluation systems and disseminating best practices.

- **Risk evasion:** Skilled and insightful at assessing risk at institutional, national and regional levels in addition to performing due diligence on potential grant recipient institutions.
- **Managing substantial human and financial resources:** Proven leadership and team building skills in managing multi-sectoral country programmes, coaching local and international staff members, hiring and managing subcontractors and consultants and evaluating their work. Conclusion of contracts and execution at agreed on terms. Planning, monitoring and approving programme budgets with an excess of \$90m. Strong process improvement mindset as well as ability to manage complex projects on time and within budget.
- **Entrepreneurial talents:** Business case development and starting-up businesses responsive to market needs to ensure the financial sustainability of projects beyond the lifespan of funding.
- **Interpersonal skills:** Relationship development expertise that complements an expertise in building solid partnerships (public and private sectors, multilaterals, financial institutions and non-governmental organisations) towards converging interests on common agendas, leveraging funding and maximising results in a variety of cultural and politically sensitive settings.

Experience

Feb. 2016 – to date

WORKING PAPER: *Donor Bodies – Emotive or Rational? An Approach to Sustainable Socio-economic Development*

Aug 2008 – Oct 2015

THE DROSOS FOUNDATION - SWITZERLAND

PROGRAMMES MANAGER *one of 4 Programmes Managers reported to Executive Member of the Board*
As a member of the senior management team, advised the Foundation on policy and methodology addressing programmes in the Middle East, North Africa, Switzerland and Germany

Countries and Grants Director in the Levant Department – with a focus on Syria and Jordan: responsible for setting-up and leading country programmes and strategies focusing on: Micro-finance, vocational training, employability, business development, education, culture and art, health and the environment.

Selected Achievements:

- Led development programmes by creating and tracking the overall Programmes' scope, resources and budget, ensuring that all teams are aligned and progressing as per the plan, as well as providing the necessary operational, results based KPIs and dashboards.
- The architect of several partnerships, public / private and public / public, as well as with international organisations and non-governmental organisations.
- Set-up successful businesses associated with the financial sustainability of programmes (tourism, agribusiness and manufacturing).
- Prepared five-year countries strategies for the Levant region with an excess of EUR 25m.
- Directed and developed global programme teams (total of 100) including CEOs, CFOs, managing directors and consultants.
- Created an innovative selection criteria to assess grants recipients and suitability of grant applications.
- Monitored the enhancement of institutional performance of 90 grant recipient organisations.
- Represented the Foundation at forums, conferences and at meetings with senior Royal, public and private figures.

May 2004 – July 2008

AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK - UK + SWITZERLAND

Reported to the Director / Deputy Director of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture – Historic Cities Programme. Established a solid 4 years+ record of achievements advancing through increasingly responsible managerial positions working on socio-economic and physical regeneration projects in Syria, Egypt and Pakistan . Led teams (50) of country directors, financial managers and consultants and delivered projects bringing sustainable impact to 1000s of beneficiaries with a budget in excess of \$75m. Designed intricate Monitoring and Evaluation systems and undertook assessments based on Quality of Life KPIs. Collaborated with multilaterals, governments and civil society organisations to assess financial, social and physical situations and developed strategic development solutions. Overseen funds disbursement, transfers and development of businesses.

Jan 2007 - July 2008

PROGRAMMES COORDINATOR – Switzerland/UK

Selected Achievements:

- Mainstreamed best practices and provided support to individual AKDN agencies in Egypt, Syria and Pakistan for outcome-level monitoring and evaluation, and tracking such activities regularly in order to combine efforts and promote learning.
- Supported the settlement of a debt swap agreement from KfW bank – Germany towards investment in economic, physical and social upgrading in Cairo – Egypt (\$15m). Raised \$10m from international bodies and corporates and saved up to 25% of projects' budgets through partnerships.
- Recognised for outstanding professional acumen with invitations to present achievements at the prestigious Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and the American University in Cairo.

June 2004 - Jan 2007

PROJECT COORDINATOR – Darb Al Ahmar Revitalisation Programme - Cairo

Selected Achievements:

- Responsible for all project fundraising, planning, implementation, reporting and evaluation - fields: Micro-finance, education, vocational training, employment, health, housing and environment.
- Initiated, developed and raised funds for a Vocational Training and Employment Programme, in partnership with international, private and public bodies - a model of best practice across Middle East.
- Led, organised and managed the research, monitoring and evaluation unit for the multi-input area development project and the regular Quality of Life (QoL) assessments, building capacity and providing assistance in utilizing results from the assessments in important parts of different units' role.
- Promoted quality and methodological innovation in QoL-related monitoring, evaluation and research activities across the projects, in order to deliver greater learning and impact.
- Developed research products (briefs, reports, publications etc) relating to the Project's activities and supported their dissemination and use by AKDN agencies for resource mobilisation.

Jan - Aug 2004

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME – USA

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE – Rural Development in the Middle East and North Africa Region

Examined literature and developed policies around science, technology and livelihood models to empower farmers with knowledge and know-how to eradicate poverty.

March – Dec 2002

WORLD BANK – USA

CONSULTANT – Socio-economic and Physical Development in North Africa

Monitored projects on physical and socio-economic upgrading fields, drew lessons learnt and proposed restructuring components to be included under loan schemes to Governments.

1999 - 2001/2003

OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY – UK

PROJECT MANAGER AND ASSOCIATE LECTURER

Managed a public funded research project – ‘Inter-professional Collaboration: Stimulating Interdisciplinary Partnerships as Best Practice for Working in the Built Environment’. Taught, on part-time basis, Socio-Economic Development module - MSc in Built Environment. Produced urban development schemes – Oxford, UK.

1994 – 1999 NORWEGIAN COOPERATION PROGRAMME - THE NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION – Norway and Palestinian Authority

1997 – 1999

PROFESSIONAL PLANNER AND POLICY ADVISOR

1994 – 1996

PLANNER

Supported the preparation of Emergency Action Plans and Competitive Advantage Studies for post conflict reconstruction and regeneration schemes (physical and socio-economic). Prepared Tourist Development Plans for Dead Sea Area and Bethlehem 2000 celebrations.

Education

May 2016	Course: Mediation Process – Supporting Dialogue and Political Negotiation, Centre for Security Studies and Centre for Development and Cooperation – ETH Zurich
Oct 1999 - Feb 2004	PhD in Development Studies, School of Built Environment, Oxford Brookes University
May - July 2002	Course on “Upgrading Urban Slums in Developing Countries”, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Boston
Sept 1997 – Nov 1998	Diploma and MA in Urban Design (with distinction), British Council Chevening Scholarship, School of Built Environment, Oxford Brookes University
June - Sept 1995	Course in Development, Planning and Geographical Information System (GIS), Asplan Viak Headquarters, and Trondheim University, Oslo
Oct 1988 - Oct 1994	BSc in Architecture, School of Engineering, Birzeit University

Publications

- Handal, J. and van der Tas, J. (2007) “Integrated Area Development Approach – Methodologies and Practices in Sustainability”. In *An Integrated Approach to Urban Regeneration, Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme*, Imprimeries Reunies Lausanne s.a., Switzerland.
- Handal, J. (2006) “Rebuilding City Identity through History”. In Zetter, R. and Watson B. (eds.) *Designing Sustainable Cities in the Developing World*, Ashgate Ltd, England.
- Hamdi, N. and Handal, J. (eds) (2005) *Urban Futures – Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction* ITDG, London.
- Handal, J. (1998) *Regeneration of Solomon Pools Area* - Exhibited project.

Languages and IT

- Excellent English and Arabic, basic French and Italian. Currently studying German.
- Fully trained on SCALA Financial Management System and latest Windows-based software applications: Word, Microsoft Project, Excel, PowerPoint and Adobe Photoshop.

Personal Interests

Reading; Traveling; Pilates; Opera / Theatre

References

Available upon request