



## Egypt in Context: Challenges and Opportunities for Funders September 19, 2013

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Before joining Oxfam Novib, Mirjam spent two years in the Egyptian province of Fayoum where she advised on capacity building for health education as part of a Primary Health Care development project. Her preceding professional experience is mostly related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: doing research for Defense for Children in East Jerusalem, fundraising for American Near East Refugee Aid in Washington DC and coordinating an advocacy project on Middle East peace in the Netherlands.

She studied Cultural Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam.