
Dr Sonia Boender

Health Scientist & Epidemiologist

Robert Koch Institute, Seestraße 10, 13353 Berlin, Germany

Work +49 30 18754 3943 | BoenderS@rki.de

<http://www.soniaboender.com> | [@SoniaBoender](https://twitter.com/SoniaBoender)



Health Scientist, specialized in Infectious Diseases, Public Health, and Global Health. Field epidemiologist in training.

Over seven years of work experience (public health, not-for-profit, university), in both resource-rich and -limited settings. Demonstrated experience with infectious disease monitoring and surveillance, on national and international level (including ECDC and WHO).

Thrives in an international multi-disciplinary team, independent, flexible, creative, enthusiastic, connector.

SKILLS HIGHLIGHT

- Epidemiological analysis of infectious disease data
- Project management and organisational skills, in resource-rich and -limited settings
- Work experience in Europe, sub-Saharan Africa and the Pacific
- Strong communicator, to diverse audiences: scientific, policy, the general public
- Experienced trainer, teacher and mentor

EXPERIENCE

Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, Germany - *Epidemiologist & Research Associate*

SEPTEMBER 2019 - PRESENT

- National infectious disease surveillance
- Setting up a syndromic surveillance system based on emergency department data
- Outbreak investigation (COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2), public health research
- Public health communication, teaching and training

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control - *EPIET Fellow*

SEPTEMBER 2019 - PRESENT

Fellow of the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (EPIET)

- Modules completed: Intro Course (Sept-Oct 2018), Outbreak Investigation (Dec 2018), Multivariable Analysis (March 2019), Rapid Assessment & Survey Methods (May 2019), Project Review Module (August 2019), Management, Leadership and Communication in Public Health (Feb 2020)

- Cohort Representative (elected): spokesperson and point of contact for fellows, the ECDC Fellowship programme heads, the training site forum, and the EPIET Alumni Network (EAN)
- Co-organiser and trainer of the Workshop Social Media for Public Health Professionals, August 2019, Prague, Czech Republic
- Co-organiser of the ESCAIDE 2019 Career Compass, November 2019, Stockholm, Sweden

Luxembourg Institute of Health, Luxembourg - *Visiting Scientist*

MAY 2019 - MARCH 2020

Investigation of the HIV outbreak among injecting drug users in Luxembourg, using a Respondent Driven Sampling approach.

- Develop a protocol to seek people who inject drugs, and screen for HIV, and hepatitis B and C infections, using a respondent driven sampling approach
- Training of the investigation team (nurses, staff of low-threshold treatment programs and harm-reduction services, medical doctors, data managers)

World Health Organisation, Suva, Fiji - *Epidemiologist*

DECEMBER 2019 - JANUARY 2020

Short-term consultant, GOARN (Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network) deployment

- To provide technical and operational assistance to Pacific Ministries of Health, for strengthening measles surveillance and other outbreak response activities, in Pacific Island Countries.

Stichting HIV Monitoring [Dutch HIV Monitoring Foundation], the Netherlands - *Epidemiologist & Postdoctoral Researcher*

FEBRUARY 2016 - JUNE 2018

National HIV surveillance and monitoring of HIV treatment and quality of care in the Netherlands.

- Routine epidemiological data analysis of clinical HIV data; periodical reporting of the descriptive epidemiology of the HIV epidemic
- Analysis, dissemination and communication of healthcare performance indicators of all 26 HIV treatment centres in the Netherlands
- Provide technical support, methodological advice, and data analysis support for research proposals submitted by treatment centres
- Advise and support data management and data monitoring in the improvement of data collection protocols, standardisation of data processing, and data quality control.
- Conduct clinical epidemiological and methodological research on the HIV epidemic
- Participate in international collaborations:
 - University College London, Institute for Global Health, International Cohort Consortium of Infectious Diseases (RESPOND);
 - Harvard Program on Causal Inference, HIV-CAUSAL
- Student supervision (MSc and PhD level)

Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development, the Netherlands - *PhD Fellow*

FEBRUARY 2013 - JANUARY 2016

- Surveillance and monitoring of HIV treatment in adults and children in sub-Saharan Africa, in 13 public and private clinical sites, from six countries: Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe
- Provide technical support and guidance to strengthen the surveillance system for HIV drug resistance in sub-Saharan Africa
- Expert Consultant for the World Health Organisation (WHO), the global network advising WHO on the control and surveillance of HIV drug resistance:
 - Provide technical assistance for strengthening HIV drug resistance surveillance in resource-limited settings
 - Contributed to the development of the WHO 'Global Action Plan on HIV Drug Resistance, 2017-2021' and the 'HIV Drug Resistance Report 2017'
 - Conducted a WHO commissioned literature-review and meta-analysis (Boender et. al; CID 2015)

VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands - *Lecturer*

APRIL 2012 - FEBRUARY 2013

Department of Health Sciences, Division Infectious Diseases, and Division of Methodology and Applied Biostatistics

- Teaching in lectures and work-groups
- Supervise internal and external research internships
- Support, plan and organise lectures and tutorials
- Manage and train course assistants

EDUCATION

Charité - Universitätsmedizin & Berlin School of Public Health, Germany - *MSc Applied Epidemiology*

2020 (expected)

University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands - *PhD Global Health*

2016

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK - *PgCert International Public Health*

2016 (with distinction)

VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands - *MSc Health Sciences*

2011

Specialisation: Infectious Diseases and Public Health.

VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands - *BSc General Health Sciences*

2010

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Proficient in STATA, SAS, SPSS, Adobe Pro, GraphPad Prism, MS Office suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).
- Experienced with R, EpiInfo, EpiData, KoboCollect, Nvivo, MS Access, QGIS/ArcGIS, Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator), Cisco WebEx.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Registered Senior Epidemiologist (PhD level), Dutch Society for Epidemiology
- ICH Good clinical practice (GCP) certified
- Drivers licence B (car)

LANGUAGES

English (C2), German (B2-C1), Dutch (C2, mother tongue)