

PROFILE

Marton LEISZEN

Year of Birth: 1978
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Current Position: Visiting Research Fellow at Center for Policy Studies, Central European University

Education: 2011: MSc of Public Administration and Communication, Roskilde University Denmark
 2007: BA of Public Administration and Cultural Encounters
 2008: Political and Strategic Communication and Management, Auckland University, Auckland, New Zealand MA exchange semester

Languages	<i>Speaking</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Writing</i>
Hungarian	Mother Tongue		
English	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Danish	Good	Good	Fair
Tok Pidgin (PNG)	Poor	Fair	Poor

Key Qualifications

Marton Leiszen joined CPS in 2012 as a Visiting Research Fellow. As an international development professional he is specialized in international development policy and strategy formulation, strategic communication and aid coordination. He also has extensive work experience with the UN system. His research interest includes the role of international organizations and interest groups to promote aid effectiveness, trade relations and private sector involvement.

Through his position as an intern with the UNFPA Country Office in Papua New Guinea he gained solid experience in strategy development, internal communication, and monitoring and evaluation of inter-agency coordination processes. Mr Leiszen also took a leading role in developing a UN branding strategy, which gave him a deep understanding of various UN agencies operative functions in a country context. He took part in preparation of various advocacy campaigns and peer review processes.

Mr. Leiszen has strong knowledge of administrative program support activities, procurement, and quality assurance (QA). As a consultant he gained thorough knowledge of complete project cycles, he provided administrative support to UNFPA's Pre Qualification Program of RH Medicines. He was responsible for administrative-, financial and logistic tasks in relation to the organization of technical workshops in East-Africa. He also knowledgeable of the UN financial and procurement rules and regulations, and has experience with bidding and contracting procedures.

Through his academic education and professional research and fieldwork Mr. Leiszen gained a broad knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research work, and experience in the management of large-scale data review research studies. He conducted numerous qualitative interviews in Hungary with key representatives of Ministries, civil society and private sector stakeholders. His research expertise lies within the international/bilateral trade regimes, the involvement of the private and civil sector as a development actor. Through this work, Mr. Leiszen gained practical project management experience, strong interview and diplomatic skills.

Country Experience

Papua New Guinea, Denmark, Tanzania, Hungary

Professional experience

2012 June- Present

Center for Policy Studies, Central European University

Visiting Research fellow

Policy Analysis and desk research

Conducting policy analysis of external trade, development aid and Aid for Trade policies, and analyse Hungary's bilateral trade relations with priority ODA recipient countries. Reviewing national development assistance policy, outlining legal framework (concepts, strategies, laws, government decrees) and responsible institutions. Providing analysis of applied trade regimes, and the effect of changes of trade regimes on trade turnover.

Surveys, Interviews, Identification of Gaps

Conducting interviews with government officials to identify common practices related to the management of international development activities and trade. Developing policy recommendations how to mainstream development principles into other policy areas. Identifying opportunities for coordinated actions to foster the utilization of Aid for Trade and reduce the weight of trade regulations and procedures with ODA recipient countries.

Development of Structured Dialogue, Awareness raising

Developing networking structures between project partners to allow the exchange of opinions and good practices. Organizing Task Force groups, working groups to raise awareness among policy-makers on ODA, partnership for development and Aid for Trade issues;

2011 November – 2012 April

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Procurement Service Branch (PSB)

Consultant Procurement Assistant

Support for Quality Assurance Team

Organizing UNFPA/WHO/FHI360 Quality Laboratory Workshops in West Africa. Developing research projects on UNFPA/WHO Pre-qualification initiatives to measure the impact of the introduction of quality standard policies for Reproductive Health commodities.

Support for Contracting team

Assisting with the finalization of UNFPA's generic specification of Medical Device list, and providing documentation for the bidding process to develop Long Term Agreements for Technical experts to further develop specifications of Medical Devices.

Finance and Admin and Internal Quality Control team

Managing assets for general audit, and the disposal of attractive items and providing other administrative tasks. Reviewing and maintain internal training log

2009 May – 2009 December

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Papua New Guinea Country Office

Communication Intern

Managing internal communication for UNFPA and overseeing deadlines and reporting procedures. Providing support for admin and program staff. Assisting in the preparation and peer review of the advocacy strategy to engage civil sector partners. Providing internal communication materials, and design progress monitoring tool to oversee agency coordination strategy for the Resident Coordinators Office. Participating in the design of awareness raising activities and preparing background study for the UN Branding Strategy for the UNCT. Acting as a UNFPA focal point at the UN Communication Committee; organizing community awareness campaigns (Stand-Up Against Poverty, 20 Days of Activism)

Selected Assignments

2012-2013

Aid for Trade: The assessment of Hungary's Official Development Assistance and trade relations

The Research on the trade relations and trade regimes with priority ODA recipient countries was part of a joint project activity commissioned by EuropeAid. The project objective to analyse the nature of trade relations and trade regimes with ODA recipient countries. The outcome of the project was to promote and disseminate the best network and advocacy practices of the new EU member states and explain the role of private and civil society sectors as development actors.

Responsibilities: drafting concept note, desk review and statistical data collection, conduct interviews, draft research paper, manage peer-review process

Role: Researcher

Client: CPS

2011

UNFPA/WHO/FHI360 National Quality Laboratory Workshops in East Africa

UNFPA/WHO/FHI360 organized capacity building workshops to ensure success of the QA scheme and the widening of the supplier base from all geographical regions. These activities were carried out in the form of regional workshops and onsite mentoring activities inviting manufacturers, national regulatory authorities and national governments. The purpose of the workshops was to review and discuss best practices in laboratory management. The workshops fostered regional coordination and cooperation and helped identifying and resolving specific local and regional issues.

Responsibilities: organization of workshop, contact and manage participants, organize logistics, provide and review workshop material, manage budget and other administrative tasks

Role: Consultant

Client: UNFPA PSB

2010

MA Thesis research: Tanzania Development Partners (DPG) Group Gender Working Group study

The research provided an analysis on how to integrating Gender Responsive Budgeting into the Aid Effectiveness Agenda. The overall goal of the research was to assess the effectiveness of the dialogue structures and map how DPG in Tanzania exploit the benefits of their Intra-DP dialogue/coordination structures to improve the main channels of co-ordination.

Role: Researcher

2009

UN Branding Strategy

The aim of the 'One UN in Papua New Guinea' initiative was to outline a common strategy to contour the UN Country Team's common strategic approaches for the coming four years (2009-2012). The core function of the last component of the 'Delivery as One' Strategy' is to frame a joint communication at the country level. To achieve development results and increase the awareness of the UN's the "One UN Communication" was to aggregate resources to increase the impact ratio of the key messages to achieve the MDG's. The aim of the project was to develop strategic communication tools, raise awareness about key development issues and highlight the UN's role in providing the support to PNG. Furthermore, to assist UNCT with positive UN branding and positioning for the media.

Responsibilities: Deliver background study on branding, prepare concept note, survey UN agencies, find key stakeholders, organize task force and working groups

Role: Communication intern

Client: UN Resident Coordinators office Papua New Guinea