

Short Curriculum Vitae

Claire Leigh

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Nationality: British

Qualifications

- 2005-2007** MPhil in International Relations, Oxford University
2004-2005 Foundation Certificate in Management, Chartered Institute for Management Accountancy (CIMA)
2000-2003 MA (Cantab) in History, Cambridge University (First Class)

Languages

- English** Mother tongue
French Basic

Developing country experience: Rwanda, Liberia, DRC, South Sudan, Uganda

Areas of expertise: Political economy and the centre of government (including Cabinets, Private/ Executive Offices, Strategy Units and Presidencies), organisational strategy and change management, public sector reform, writing and public speaking, system analysis and development, research management, public speaking, project management, British social policy, British foreign and aid policy

Posts held:

2011- Present **Head of Budget Strengthening Initiative (Strategic Operations and Development), Overseas Development Institute**

BSI works with the world's poorest and most fragile states to strengthen their Ministries of Finance and planning & budgetary processes, in order to improve the effectiveness and transparency of government expenditure. Claire leads on BSI's cross-cutting strategy, operations and partnerships with funders and other stakeholders.

2009-2011 **Governance Advisor, Africa Governance Initiative (AGI), Office of Tony Blair**

The Africa Governance Initiative is headed by ex-British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and works in African states to equip promising leaders with the capacity to deliver on their priorities, provide core public services, tackle deep-rooted poverty and attract the investment necessary for sustainable growth in the future. While at AGI Claire worked as a senior advisor to the Presidents of Liberia and Rwanda on reforms at the centre of government to improve effectiveness and delivery.

2007-2009 **Senior Policy Advisor, Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, UK Government (HMG)**

The Prime Minister's Strategy Unit (PMSU) provided the British Prime Minister and the Number 10 Policy Unit with strategic advice on the medium and long-term policy agenda. As a 'Fast Streamer' and then as a Senior Policy Advisor on foreign and

development policy, Claire provided Number 10 with advice on topics including defense, the EU and British foreign policy. Claire was seconded to the Foreign Office for six months to support the FCO 'Strategy Refresh' process, and was also the focal point for Futures and Horizon-Scanning.

**2006-2007
(part time) Intern and Consultant, UNICEF Headquarters, New York**

First as an intern on the United Nations Internship Programme, and then as a consultant, Claire led projects comparing rates of juvenile detention across all countries and on trends in children living in residential care institutions worldwide.

2003-2005 Analyst, Deloitte Consulting

Claire worked as a strategy analyst in this leading management consultancy practice, working with a variety of major UK public sector clients as part of Deloitte's highly competitive Graduate Trainee Scheme

Recent and ongoing assignments (since joining ODI)

- Fundraising for the next phase of BSI's work
- Providing support to the g7+ group of fragile states
- Supporting BSI's country programmes in DRC and Liberia
- Developing a peer learning network between Ministries of Finance in fragile states
- Developing new BSI frameworks for M&E and financial management

Selected personal publications

- Leigh, Claire & David Chaplin (eds), *Fast Forward: The Next Generation of Progressive Politics*, The Fabian Society, 2009
- Leigh, Claire & Alun Rhydderch, *International Future Challenges and Opportunities*, Wilton Park, 2009
- Leigh, Claire, 'Independence and transnational activism: lessons from Gleneagles', *Cosmopolis*, Issue 1/2009
- HMG, *New Opportunities: Fair chances for the future*, White Paper, 2009
- Cabinet Office, *Getting on, getting ahead: the trends and drivers of social mobility*, Analytical Report, 2008