

Curriculum Vitae

Liesbet Steer

Overseas Development Institute

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Nationality: Belgian

DOB: 16/03/1972

Qualifications:

2002-2005

PhD Development Economics - "Institutions in Transition. A Study of Private Sector Development in Vietnam's Transition."

1998-1999

University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK (dissertation): 2002-2005

London School of Economics, London, UK (PhD course work): 1998-1999

1990-1994

Master (Licentiaat) in Applied Economics

University of Antwerp, Belgium

Graduation with Greatest Distinction

Laureate in Economics (prize for best economics student) – Castelein & Jussiant Foundation

Languages:

Dutch Mother tongue

English Fluent

French Fluent

German Conversational

Indonesian Conversational

Developing country experience:

Lived and worked for 10 years in East Asia: Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos.

Areas of expertise:

**Aid effectiveness,
new aid flows,
results based aid**

- Research focus at ODI as a member of the Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure
- Led donor working groups on implementing Paris Agenda in local economic development programs (under the Indonesian multi-donor Decentralization Support Facility) and private sector development in Indonesia.

**Impact evaluation &
measurement of
development
progress**

- Research focus at ODI: projects on measuring development progress and use of impact evaluations
- Managed introduction of results based approach to program design and developing systems of monitoring and evaluation at The Asia Foundation.

**Economic growth,
private sector
development,
institutions**

- Research focus at ODI: role of private sector in aid
- Carried out research and managed development programs in the areas of private sector and local economic development, domestic trade and regulatory reform. Institutional development has been a cross-cutting theme.

**Research/survey
methodology**

- Extensive experience in conducting and managing surveys for the purpose of informing policy including working with large quantitative databases and econometric modeling, qualitative surveys and building analytical and data collection capacity in developing country institutions.

Posts held:

**2008-
present**

Research Fellow/Associate, Overseas Development Institute, Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure

Manage and contribute to various research projects on development related topics with a particular focus on assessing development progress, aid effectiveness, new aid flows, role of private actors in aid, results based aid & impact evaluation.

Current and Recent Projects (with commissioning organization):

- Progress towards the MDGs: MDG Report Card (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and UN Millennium Campaign)
- Development Progress: A Library of Stories (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)
- Achieving Universal Primary Education: Opportunities and Constraints (The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation)
- Progress on the Aid Effectiveness Agenda and Accountability of Aid (the Commonwealth Secretariat)
- Impact Evaluation Production and Use (DFID)
- Poverty and Social Impact Analysis Review (PSIA) (World Bank)
- New Actors, New Flows: the World Bank, Private Sector and Sustainable Growth (Dutch Government)
- Review of Good Practice on Mutual Accountability at Country Level (GTZ and Working Group for Aid Effectiveness OECD-DAC)
- UK Progress Report on Making Aid Effective - case studies on Vietnam and Cambodia (DFID)

**2005-
2007**

Director, Economic Reform Program, The Asia Foundation, Jakarta, Indonesia

Managed the Foundation's largest economic research and policy program in Asia (US\$3.5 million per year).

Areas of focus: private sector development, investment climate performance measurement, governance and regulatory reform, local government service delivery.

Responsibilities included:

- Designing and implementing technical assistance programs in Indonesia - funded by a number of bilateral and multilateral donors and implemented in conjunction with national and international research and development institutions.
- Designing and implementing research on the investment climate, domestic trade and local public service delivery
- Monitoring and evaluating results. Introduced a new monitoring and evaluation system to more accurately measure program results and performance of implementing partner agencies.
- Engaging with policy makers at local and national level to discuss policy reform, new

- program ideas, and program implementation.
- Managing a team of 15 research and program officers and consultants.
 - Chairing private sector development donor working group and leading local economic reform working group under Indonesian multi-donor Decentralization Support Facility.
- 2001-2002** **Managed and chaired major research seminar series on development issues in Vietnam.**
National Economics University, Hanoi, Vietnam
- Research seminar series for Vietnamese and international development specialists (covering topics ranging from aid effectiveness, health and education to macroeconomics and trade policy, financial sector deepening, and political economy of reform).
- 1998-2002** **Independent Economic Consultant (based in Hanoi, Vietnam):**
- Centre for International Economics, Canberra, Australia:**
- Project on the Impact of Trade Liberalization/Reform in Vietnam: Regulatory Constraints to Private Sector Development (AusAID): 2001-2002. Principal Investigator. Analysis of obstacles to the responsiveness of private enterprises to changes in incentives following trade reform. Focus on the lack of institutions to support trade (including, for example, availability of market information, ability to enforce contracts, ability to enter new markets)
 - Project on Private Sector Development and Response to Economic Reform (AusAID): 2000-2001. Team leader. Led a study in collaboration with the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM), a Vietnamese research institute, on the development of the private sector in Vietnam.
- World Bank, Vietnam:**
- Project on Employment Generation in Vietnam: 2001. Principal Investigator. Research of the private sector in Vietnam and its capacity to generate jobs. Analysis based on a survey of 400 enterprises carried out in collaboration with the Institute for Labor Studies and Social Affairs (ILSSA), a local research institute under the Ministry of Labor.
 - Project on State Enterprise Reform & Private Sector Development: 1998. Edited publication on divestiture and privatization of state-owned enterprises. Consolidated and analyzed data on the private sector in Vietnam.
- International Finance Corporation (IFC), Mekong Project Development Facility, Vietnam**
- Project to design SME development strategy in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos: 1999-2000. Principal Investigator. Designed a strategy for IFC- MPDF as part of their Business Environment Program to promote development of the domestic private sector in tourism.
- 1998-1999** **Researcher, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK**
Research project on Economics of Travel and Tourism Sector addressing national accounts, satellite accounts and other economic measurement methods to study the impact of tourism and trade in services in the economy.
- 1995-1997** **Researcher, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands**
Research project at Erasmus Business School, topics included tourism and development, globalization and cross-cultural management of tourism industry.
- 1994-1995** **Researcher, University of Antwerp, Faculty of Economics**
Research project at Centre for Economic and Social Research. Macro economic impact analysis. Analysis of labor, tax and social effects of cultural sector.

Selected publications and reports:

- (2010). MDG Report Card: Measuring Progress Across Countries. London. ODI
- (2010). Formal and Informal Institutions in a Transition Economy: The Case of Vietnam. *World Development*. Vol 38 (11), p. 1603-1615. (with K. Sen)
- (2010). Donor Financing of Basic Education: Opportunities and Constraints. *International Journal of Educational Development*. Vol 30(5), p. 472-480. (with C. Wathne)
- (2009). Commonwealth Member Countries Progress on the Aid Effectiveness Agenda. London, ODI (with H. Tavakoli, C. Wathne, N. Highton)
- (2009). Mutual Accountability at Country Level: Emerging Good Practice. ODI Background Note. London, ODI. (with C. Wathne).
- (2008). Improving Impact Evaluation Production and Use. Working Paper 300, London, ODI. (with N. Jones, H. Jones & A. Datta)
- (2008). Poverty and Social Impact Analysis. Reviewing the Link with In-Country Policy and Planning Processes. (Nepal & Tanzania Case Studies). London, ODI.
- (2008). Concept and Good Practice Paper on Mutual Accountability at Country Level. London, ODI. (with Ruth Driscoll and C. Wathne)
- (2008). Institutions in Transition. How Vietnam's booming private sector compensated for a lack of legal protection. University of Manchester, Working Paper. (with K. Sen)
- (2008). New Actors, New Flows: the World Bank, Private Sector and Sustainable Growth. London, ODI.
- (2006). Business Licensing and One Stop Shops in Indonesia. Paper presented at Asia Consultative Conference on Creating Better Business Environments for Enterprise Development, Donor Committee for Enterprise Development, Bangkok, November 2006.
- (2005). Survey of Recent Developments. *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies*, Vol 41 (3), p. 279-304. (with K. Sen)
- (2002). A Little Engine that Could...: Domestic Private Companies and Vietnam's Pressing Need for Wage Employment. *World Bank Policy Research Paper*, No 2873, August 2002. (with M. Taussig)
- (2001). The Private Sector in Vietnam. Facts, Figures, Policy Changes and a Survey of Research Findings. Canberra, Centre for International Economics.
- (2000). Developing SMEs in the Tourism Industry. Recommendations for IFC assistance for SMEs in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. IFC-MPDF, Hanoi.
- (1999). The Economic Effects of Tourism: From Satellite Accounts to General Equilibrium Analysis. Working Paper, London School of Economics.