

CURRICULUM VITAE: DR IR CARIN VIJFHUIZEN

Development sociologist (PhD) with MBA certificates in Leadership. Over 36 years of work experience in social change processes, organizational development, educational management, international development and program & project formulation and coordination involving multiple stakeholders successfully. Strong interpersonal, communication and organizational skills, including team and organizational management. Has a holistic perspective without neglecting the details. Delivers high-quality work through an enthusiastic, entrepreneurial, driven, and motivated attitude.

WORK EXPERIENCE

1 July 2025 - to date

COA Netherlands (South) – Casemanager

April 2017 – June 2025

Carin Vijfhuizen Advice & Consultancy (SLEE-B), Steyl – Project Leader and Manager

- **First half 2025:** Sociological research in agricultural sector (IBR - stakeholder analysis) | SLEE-B
- **2024:** Program manager - funding proposals for vocational and university institutions in Ghana | PUM.
- **06/2023 – 02/2024:** Key Expert 1, Team Leader | Luvent Consultancy – Monitoring UN/EU programs in Iraq on social security, ICT, UNESCO World Heritage, and employment.
- **2023:** Program manager international multidisciplinary education programs | NUFFIC.
- **2019 & 2023:** Communications Advisor | Wageningen University – Tailor-made learning paths.
- **2019–2022:** Program Manager | ICRA – Multidisciplinary project on partnerships and the labor market with six universities in Iraq. Author.
- **11/2019–02/2020:** Program Manager for international education programs | NUFFIC.
- **12/2018:** Successful tender formulation for multidisciplinary cooperation between Dutch and Indonesian green education institutions | MSM.
- **2018/2019:** Committee Member Africa | VLIR-UOS. And Program manager international multidisciplinary education programs | NUFFIC. Author.
- **2017:** Team Leader | Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Research in South Africa and Indonesia on structural collaboration between Dutch and local green education institutions, including stakeholder and needs analyses and stakeholder conferences.

AUGUST 2014 – OCTOBER 2016

CINOP International, Den Bosch – Principal of an International Vocational College in Saudi Arabia

- Establishing and developing an international vocational college in Al-Hasa, Saudi Arabia.
- Leading the management team, 100 staff members, and 1,000 students.
- Responsible for mission, vision, strategic documents, and education programs.
- Establishing and chairing a labor market advisory board for curriculum input and employment.
- Monitoring the Career Development Centre for On-the-Job Training (OJT) in companies.

MAY 2007 – JUNE 2014

NUFFIC, The Hague – Senior Program Manager

- Conducting identification missions, including the formulation of project proposals for tendering to build institutional capacity in Africa and the Middle East.
- Designing country programs and managing country portfolios of €10–15 million each in Tanzania, South Africa, Egypt, Yemen, Bangladesh, and the Palestinian Territories.
- Ensuring stakeholder involvement and strategic communication with governments, companies, universities, vocational institutions, industry, NGOs, etc., including co-financing.

- Monitoring the success of the projects that are implemented by the educational institutions in Africa and the Middle East in collaboration with the Dutch educational instituters and other stakeholders.

DECEMBER 2004 – DECEMBER 2006

MSM, Maastricht – Team Leader Gender Centre, Aden University, Yemen

- Implementing and monitoring a project to strengthen the gender research centre in Aden University.
- Coordinating the team and enhanced their capacities.
- Developing educational programs on irrigation and gender.
- Lecturing at Sanaa University.
- Conducting research on women entrepreneurs and other stakeholders in Aden.

NOVEMBER 2002 – NOVEMBER 2004

Wageningen University – Student Advisor and Competency Profile Developer

- Advising MSc students in International Development Studies: tailor-made learning trajectories.
- Formulating competency profiles for BSc and MSc programs in International Development Studies.
- Completing research on the cashew sector in Mozambique, published with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), London. <https://www.iied.org/9554iied>

NOVEMBER 1998 – OCTOBER 2002

Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Professor, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique

- Professor at Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo.
- Leading and coordinating the Communication and Development Studies department.
- Lecturing and supervising students' thesis writing.
- Designing an MSc program in Development Studies with multiple departments and stakeholders.
- Conducting research on land use and research with IIED on the cashew sector in Mozambique.
- Publishing policy and research reports.

APRIL 1994 – APRIL 1998

Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Researcher, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe

- Researcher at the University of Zimbabwe.
- PhD research on daily life and governance in a Ndau village with an irrigation scheme.
- Supervising students in their research.
- Developing policies on the management of irrigation systems.
- Consultant for IFAD on irrigation and gender.

JANUARY 1990 – APRIL 1993

RDP Livestock Services, Zambia – Coordinator of Socio-Economic Research Team

- Coordinating a socio-economic research team in a livestock development project.
- Stakeholder analysis and research-based policy formulation.
- Consultancy assignments to assess effectiveness and efficiency of implemented projects.

EDUCATION

Degree / Courses

Institution

Degree / Courses**Institution**

MBA certificates in Leadership (2012–2014-2015)

NCOI

PhD in Development Sociology (1994–1998)

Wageningen University

MSc in Development Sociology + 4 additional subjects (1984–1989)

Wageningen University

BSc in Economics and Animal Husbandry (1980–1984)

Higher Agricultural School,
Leeuwarden

SKILLS

Strong communication and organizational skills. Project management and leadership • Project formulation and coordination • Research • Writing • Monitoring and Evaluation • Publishing books and articles • Delivering online courses • Passionate, motivated, enthusiastic, and positive.

LANGUAGES

- Dutch and English: Fluent in speaking and writing
- Portuguese, French, German: good in reading and listening; reasonable in speaking and writing.
- Spanish: good in reading, fair in listening, speaking and writing

ACTIVITIES

Writer • Researcher • Poet • Mezzo-soprano • Mother and adoptive mother • Nature lover and birdwatcher • Hiker and camper • Home renovation

RECENT BOOK PUBLICATIONS

- *Jouw Schatkamer* (Novum, 2019)
- *Worthwhile* (Novum, 2022)
- *We Want to Be Great* (Austin Macauley, 2022)
- *Hoe hardnekkig die tropische blauwe lucht / How Persistent That Tropical Blue Sky* (Elikser, 2022)
- *Loftrompetten / Trumpets of Praise* (Elikser, 2024)

The books of Carin Vijfhuizen can be ordered via the publishers' websites or via [bol.com](https://www.bol.com) and [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)