

Résumé/Curriculum Vitae

Education:

M.A. in Intl. Development Studies
Dalhousie University, Halifax (Canada)

B.A. in Economics, Political Science & Sociology
Mount Carmel College, Bangalore University,
Bangalore (India)

Languages:

English (fluent), Hindi (fluent), Indonesian (basic), Tamil (conversational), French (introductory)

Employment Status:

Self-employed since 2001 as a sole proprietorship

Pertinent experience:

I am an international public health consultant of over seventeen years' standing with extensive experience in international project management, including results-based management, research, analysis, results reporting and communications. My experience also includes event management and content planning of high-level international events.

I have designed and managed complex, multi-million-dollar international development projects on behalf of government departments, NGOs and multilateral organizations. I have worked on regional, bilateral and multilateral projects and programs, primarily in the sectors of public health and gender equality.

My experience within the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and Global Affairs Canada (GAC) includes long-term involvement in international Public Health. I have also provided consulting services for the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, as well as for the World Health Organization's Western Pacific Regional Office in the Philippines. Furthermore, I have provided consulting services to not-for-profit organizations such as World Vision Canada, the International Development Research Centre and Results-Based Management Group.

Pertinent skills and attributes:

I have proven skills in planning, designing, managing and implementing challenging projects effectively. I am conscientious and reliable and offer both vision and attention to detail. My approach is open and inclusive, and I collaborate well with a variety of partners, often in testing circumstances. I am a strong team player, with an ability to inspire others. I am told I have exceptionally strong conceptual, writing and organizational skills.

History of employment:

July 2016 – Present Proprietor
Naturalilly.com

I have been working on a non-profit start up from July of 2016. My background touches on India, Dubai, Canada, Australia, Bali, and many places in between. While living and working in various places, I maintained my love for natural, hand-made products that tread lightly on the earth and have met numerous talented small artisans who sustain their simple lives by doing what they love most. I have always wanted to have a small non-profit business where I can give back to people who have touched my life. With this intention, I created Naturalilly.com. I took 6 months to fully immerse myself in my start up and am presently letting this side business run with minimal supervision. I am now focused on my public health consulting profession, where I can generate a small income and invest a portion of it into my non-profit business.

May 2017 – Dec 2017 Senior Policy Consultant, Infectious Disease Prevention and
Control Branch, Public Health Agency of Canada

Under the direction of the Center for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control (CCDIC), I was responsible for providing policy advice and planning regarding key priority files (Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections, Harm Reduction, Community Action Fund, Stakeholder Engagements and Guidance Document Development). Created Critical Path documents for these priority files for senior management and Ministerial level of PHAC. Simultaneously created Critical Path document for World AIDS day for 2017.

Dec 2015- June 2016 Senior Policy Consultant, Infectious Disease Prevention and
Control Branch, Public Health Agency of Canada

Under the direction of the Center for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control (CCDIC), I was responsible for providing policy advice and planning regarding health surveillance policy and program issues for the new Canadian Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (CARSS). My main role in this position was creating a logic model and performance measurement framework for the CARSS initiative, including extensive stakeholder consultations to finalize the two tools. I also provided liaison and coordination services to support the Branch (and CCDIC in particular) in sound decision making, and I represented the organization at departmental and interdepartmental meetings at the request of senior management

June 2013-July 2015 Lived and volunteered in Asia

During these two years I took a leave of absence from my consulting business to travel, live and volunteer in Asia. I am originally from India and I wanted my two children to experience a different culture other than North America. With this intention, my family and I used Bali, Indonesia as our base, where my children went to school during the school term. On break, we traveled, and I volunteered in Asia with different local organizations.

Results Based Management (Research, Analysis, Performance Measurement Reporting):

March – June 2013

*Senior Consultant, Information, Communication, and
Technology Council*

Conducted secondary research (literature review) to gather information on ways newcomers can help enhance the social capital framework within Canadian communities with the skills and experience they bring to Canada. Also conducted primary research to validate the secondary research findings and proposed strategies for improving integration of newcomers and advancing rural and remote communities across Canada. Finally, developed a feasibility report using the data collected with recommendations for supporting ICT newcomer settlement in rural or northern Canada and enhancing workforce integration. The findings showcased the benefits of immigrants in rural communities and how they yield employment gains and economic growth in these regions.

July 2011-Dec 2012

*Senior Consultant, World Health Organization (WHO), Western
Pacific Regional Office*

Presented to the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED) partners and donors the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for APSED (2010) as part of the Technical Advisory Group meetings from July 26 to July 28, 2011, in Manila, Philippines. Wrote a high-level advocacy document for APSED (2010), to be provided to all Ministries of Health within the Western Pacific Region of WHO, as well as to donors and technical partners supporting APSED (2010).

April - June 2011

*Senior Consultant, International Public Health Division,
Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)*

Wrote the 3rd Annual Technical Progress Report for the Canada-Asia Regional Emerging Infectious Disease (CAREID) project. Contract involved research, analysis and review of reports and material related to the CAREID project. The deliverable for this consultancy was a comprehensive 3rd Annual Progress Report to present to the Canadian International Development Agency.

Jan-March 2011

*Senior Consultant, World Health Organization (WHO), Western
Pacific Regional Office*

Wrote a detailed donor-friendly technical report summarising activities undertaken, and results achieved, from January to December 2010 by Member States and SEARO and WPRO regional offices, with regards to the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED). Contract involved reviewing activity and results documents for SEARO and WPRO countries, related to the APSED. This report has been presented to all donors of APSED and has been published.

June -December 2010 *Senior Consultant, International Public Health Division,
Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)*

Researched, examined, and outlined the international deployment programs currently in place in key Government of Canada departments (and the mobilization models of organizations such as the Red Cross), and made recommendations on models that could be explored/utilized by PHAC. The deliverable of this consultancy was an in-depth report that provided an overview of the programs, platforms and tools currently used to facilitate international mobilizations/deployments with recommendations to senior PHAC staff for which models could be considered for application at PHAC.

Nov- Dec 2009 *Senior Consultant, International Development Research Centre*

Reviewed and provided input on IDRC's Micronutrient Initiative (MI) proposal to GAC on Micronutrient Malnutrition in Afghanistan. Consulting services provided included: reviewing the above-mentioned proposal from a gender equality perspective and suggesting gender specific content; proposed indicators to be used for monitoring and evaluation of the project impact on gender equality; proposed a gender-budget that resulted from gender-related changes made to the proposal; provided additional recommendations to further improve the objectives, strategy and M&E for the gender aspects of this project.

Dec 2009 – May 2010 *Senior Consultant, World Health Organization (WHO), Western
Pacific Regional Office*

Researched and wrote a comprehensive technical results report for the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED). The report examined how countries of the Asia Pacific Region have strengthened their core capacities for effective preparedness, planning, prevention, prompt detection, characterization, containment, and control of emerging infectious diseases that threaten national, regional and global health security.

Oct 2008 – March 2009 *Senior Consultant, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva*

Researched and wrote a report on achievements of WHO in Avian and Pandemic Influenza. The report was used to highlight to donors and member states the recent accomplishments of WHO in global monitoring of, and preparation for, avian and pandemic influenza. As well, the report was used as a WHO publication on Avian and Pandemic Influenza for 2009.

April 2008 – March 2009 *Senior Consultant, International Public Health Division,
Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)*

Researched and drafted Terms of Reference for PHAC External Advisory Committee on International Public Health. Research involved drafting survey questionnaire, administering questionnaire online and by telephone, analyzing survey results, and producing summary report. Additionally, was involved in research, analysis and advice to senior management in support of the PHAC External Advisory Committee on International Public Health and the PHAC International Network.

Oct 2006 – March 2008 *Senior Consultant, Policy Branch, GAC*
Provided strategic support to senior management on the Global Health Workforce Alliance (GHWA) file. Tasks have included: conducting research on structure of existing, successful multilateral boards; providing advice to GHWA Executive Board on effectively transitioning to Permanent Board status; drafting succession plan for GHWA Executive Board, including recommendations for key operational considerations. Also conducted a scoping study on health system strengthening projects within GAC.

Jan - March 2005 *Consultant, Integration Branch, Citizenship and Immigration Canada*
Co-authored a background concept paper on CIC's approach to settlement and integration to be used to develop Canada's Immigration Framework (CIF).

Dec 2004 - March 2005 *Consultant, Integration Branch, Citizenship and Immigration Canada*
Developed a guidance manual for Special Initiatives & Outreach Division on the new Enhanced Language Training (ELT) Initiative. Development of guide included organization of consultations across the country and facilitating workshops with regional and head office teams.

Oct 2002 - March 2003 *Consultant, Performance Review Branch, GAC*
Undertook meta-evaluations of project reviews for the Evaluation Division of the Performance Review Branch. Assessed the quality and "value for money" of select GAC project reviews undertaken by consultants. Advised the Performance Review Branch on strategies to improve the project review process in GAC's branches in future.

Jan - June 2002 *Consultant, International Affairs Division, Environment Canada*
Conducted research to support government negotiations on the Kyoto Protocol. Accomplishments included the creation of a database of country environmental profiles (focusing on developing countries) and supporting the Deputy Minister through regular written briefings on developments related to the Kyoto Protocol.

Jan - Feb 2002 *Consultant, Policy Branch, GAC*
Devised and executed strategy for increasing profile of Development Express. Successfully raised awareness of GAC's initiatives through coordinated contact with external stakeholders.

International Project Design and Management:

Jan - June 2008 *Consultant, Africa Branch, GAC*
Drafted Project Approval Document in support of GAC's contribution to the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa via a trust fund agreement.

April - July 2008 *Consultant, Africa Branch, GAC*
Researched and drafted TB Submission and RRMAF for Mozambique Program for \$35 million contribution to pooled health sector fund.

Dec2007 –March 2009

Consultant, Africa Branch, GAC

Researched and drafted series of project documents for the Sudan Program to support NGO proposals, including Concept Papers, Project Approval Documents, and other related documents.

Aug 2006 - Dec 2010

Senior Consultant, Asia Branch, GAC

Provided project management services for the Canada-Asia Regional Emerging Infectious Diseases Project (CAREID). Tasks included: conducting comparative analysis of multilateral infectious diseases projects; drafted strategy for negotiations with multilateral organization; drafted briefing notes and Memos to the Minister; drafted discussion paper for implementation of CAREID project; facilitated CAREID Project Implementation Plan workshop; Drafted Project Implementation Plan with PHAC. Reviewed results reports for the CAREID project.

May 2003 – March 2007

Consultant, Multilateral Branch, GAC

Provided program planning and project management services related to the STOP TB Partnership. Consulting services provided for the STOP TB file included: drafting TB Submissions, RMAFs, and RBAFs totalling \$80 million for the Global Drug Facility file and assisted others within directorate in preparation of their results documents; reviewed proposals for multilateral projects that fell under the TB portfolio, and made recommendations for funding; provided project-related advice based on knowledge of GAC's health sector policies, procedures, and practices; produced project-specific results reports, operational results reports for the Global Initiatives Directorate; conducted research on, and analysis of, health sector issues in the area of communicable diseases (largely tuberculosis, and the TB/HIV co-epidemic); contributed to innovative project research and development for increasing TB detection with the STOP TB Partnership (Geneva); prepared all documents to seek Minister's approval for new funding (e.g. Memo to Minister, environmental assessment documents); and liaised with representatives from the WHO and World Bank in relation to STOP TB Partnership files. Provided project management and research services for the Micronutrient Initiative (MI), by reviewing results reports submitted by International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and provided constructive feedback.

Design and Organization of Learning Events & Study Tours:

July – Sep 2009

Senior Consultant, Strategic Policy and Performance Branch, GAC

Organized, coordinated, and planned three thematic high-level Roundtables for the purpose of determining new strategic directions for GAC. Attended the Roundtables with senior level partners and stakeholders. Provided advice to GAC senior management on GAC's new strategic direction coming out of the Roundtables. Prepared final reports for each of the Roundtables summarizing key ideas and recommendations, and prepared evaluation reports for all three Roundtables.

April 2008 - March 2009

*Senior Consultant, International Public Health Division,
Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)*

Advice provided on an on-going basis to senior staff of PHAC's International Public Health Division for organizing PHAC's External Advisory Committee Meetings. Organized and attended all of the External Advisory Committee Meetings and provided final reports for each meeting.

July - Nov. 2007

Senior Consultant, Policy Branch, GAC

Collaboratively planned, designed, and organised GAC's first sectorial (health) learning forum. Prepared an in-depth analytic report synthesising participant feedback on forum, and recommendations for advancing GAC's health programming. Provided advice to senior management on content and thematic issues for the learning forum.

Jan. - Feb 2007

Senior Consultant, Asian Development Bank

Designed, organized and planned a six-day study tour in Ottawa and Toronto for senior officials from Vietnamese Ministry of Planning & Investment on Results-Based Management, including development of meeting program in Ottawa and Toronto. Coordinated all logistics for senior Ministerial staff.

Jan - Sep 2006

Senior Consultant, Policy Branch, GAC

Provided communications and communications research services for GAC's participation in the XVI International AIDS Conference – "Time to Deliver", which was held from the 13-18 of August 2006, in Toronto Canada. Coordinated overall Government of Canada's engagement strategy for the AIDS 2006 conference. Conducted in-depth research, and drafted speaking points, for Minister for meeting with civil society representatives. Drafted speeches and speaking points for senior level GAC staff, including Vice-President of Policy Branch and Director of Social Development Policies unit.

July 2006

Senior Consultant, Asia Branch, GAC

Designed, organized and planned a two-week Vietnamese delegation study tour to Canada. Coordinated all the logistics for senior Ministerial staff for the study tour.

August 2006

Senior Consultant, Policy Branch, GAC

Designed, organized and planned a two-day conference for Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI Switzerland) working group members. Provided advice to GAC's senior management on content.

2006

Senior Consultant, Asia Branch, GAC

Designed, organized and planned a two-week Canadian study tour for high-level delegation from Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency.

Gender Research and Advice:

Jan - March 2006

*Consultant, Post-Tsunami Gender Mainstreaming Projects,
World Vision Canada*

Worked as part of 2-consultant team on post-tsunami gender mainstreaming projects for Sri Lanka, Pakistan and India. Work included: design of survey to collect baseline data on women's access to water, bathing areas, and toilet facilities, and women's participation in local decision-making bodies; secondary research to identify best practices/lessons learned in mainstreaming gender into disaster relief and post-disaster development projects; analysis of survey and focus group data and drafting of 40-page report; development of results-based management documents such as Logical Framework Analysis; and drafting of gender section of the Project Implementation Plan (PIP).

April 2004

Senior Gender Researcher/Analyst, Kartini International Consulting Inc.

Part of team that provided gender equality technical comments and reviews for NGO project proposals for Canadian Partnership Branch, GAC.

Aug 2000 – Aug 2001

M.A. Thesis Researcher, Participatory Research in Asia, India

Completed research while affiliated with Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA). Thesis explored the interface between Indian civil society and the Indian state using a gender lens. Examined work performed by an intermediary organization advocating forest access for one tribal group in Uttar Pradesh. Used interdisciplinary methodology to gather data. Research included basic education, health and nutrition, child protection and the environment.

May –July 2000

Gender Mainstreaming Advisor, GISP, Sri Lanka

Identified difficulties in integrating gender equality principles in Governance and Institutional Strengthening Project's (GISP's) partner organizations; established linkages with local women's groups; developed guidelines, mechanisms and monitoring systems for gender equality integration; and organized and delivered gender training with GISP partners.

Additional Work Experience

Sep 1998 – April 2000

Community Speaker (Volunteer), UNICEF, Halifax, Canada

Conducted presentations on gender equality, urban and rural poverty in developing countries, and environmental and human rights issues, in public schools and libraries. Presentations served to increase awareness of UNICEF's role on behalf of the world's children, and provided teachers with educational strategies and resources related to development education

Sep 1999- April 2000

*Teaching Assistant, Anthropology Dept.,
Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada*

Conducted weekly tutorials on anthropological theory and methods with 40 undergraduate students while completing Master's degree. Marked exams/research papers, assisted with exam composition, held study groups.

Awards

Canadian International Development Agency “Innovative Research” Award (2000)

Lester Pearson International SWIF Award (2000)

Dalhousie Graduate Research Award (2000)

Papers Presented and Publications

Implementing APSED 2010: Securing the Health of Future Generations. WHO regional Offices for South-East Asia and Western Pacific. 2011

Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases: Progress Report. WHO regional Offices for South-East Asia and Western Pacific. 2010

The Interface Between Civil Society and The State: A Case Study Through A Gender Lens From Rural India”. Paper Presented at Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), February 14th, 2001, New Delhi, India. Paper subsequently published as an in-house discussion document by Centre for Civil Society Development, PRIA - New Delhi, India.

“The Problematique of Gender Mainstreaming: An Intern’s Perspective”. Paper presented at the Canadian Association for the Study of International Development’s 17th Annual Conference, “Language, Culture and Community in International Development”, May 27th – 29th 2001, University Laval, Quebec, Canada

References:

Available upon request