

Emma Haegeman

SUMMARY

Emma recently joined *theIDLgroup* in November 2009. Her main areas of experience are in governance, accountability, social development, public sector reform and political economy analysis, with a primary professional interest in East Asian economies. Before joining *theIDLgroup*, Emma worked as a Project Associate for the United Nations Development Programme on civil society and local council development in Lao PDR. She has also worked for the Mekong River Commission on environmental governance and volunteered for a number of NGOs in East Asia. She is able to carry out research of a high quality and also has good networking and team-building skills.

KEY STRENGTHS

- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral
- Good relationship-building skills and cultural understanding when working in an international environment
- Strong research and analytical skills

QUALIFICATIONS

MSc Development Studies, SOAS, University of London
BA (*Joint Honors*) History and Politics, University of Nottingham

COUNTRY EXPERIENCE

Lao PDR, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Japan, China, India, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Oman

CAREER HISTORY

2009 (present) **Research Consultant at *theIDLgroup* UK**
Social Development and Governance Portfolios
Project Support on Ethiopian CSO Monitoring Facility (DFID funded)



- 2007- 2008 **United Nations Development Programme, Lao PDR
Governance Unit, Project Associate**
- Responsible for managing Phase One of the 'Civil Society and Government Partnerships for Poverty Reduction Project' and assisting the set up of a flagship project – 'Governance and Public Administration Reform: local councils' (GPAR) to help the Lao government improve its delivery of services to the poor.
 - Key objectives were to build relationships between government and civil society organisations by raising awareness of the benefits of effective partnerships to work towards poverty reduction and sustainable development. Phase One consisted of assisting the Public Administration and Civil Service Authority (PACSA) to establish a working group to draft a decree on associations and building government capacity to register and monitor CSOs in Phase Two.
 - Organised study tours for PACSA (the registering body) to visit Vietnam and India in order to facilitate question and answer sessions on how other governments managed the early stages of civil society development
 - Developed a database of CSOs in Lao PDR prior to the finalisation of the decree in order to prepare government capacity for registering large numbers of organisations.
 - Assisted with other governance, voice and accountability related projects such as the development of the Khoun community radio in the province of Xieng Khouang. The station is community-led, operated by volunteers in trying to be more responsive to local needs i.e. broadcasts in three local languages (Lao Loum, Khmu and Hmong) to give communities a voice through direct participation.
- 2007 – 2008 **Working Group of Ethnical and Cultural Awareness in Lao PDR
(UNDP initiative)**
- Member of the working group responsible for awareness-raising events both internally and with other regional development organisations.
- 2006 - 2007 **Mekong River Commission, Lao PDR
International Communication and Cooperation Section
Project Assistant**
- Organised study tours from other southern river basin organisations (Nile Basin Initiative) to visit the MRC secretariat in Lao PDR and the Flood Management and Mitigation Centre in Cambodia. Relevant programmes had to be coordinated to meet with and present their work to the delegation.
 - Drafted a concept note to establish a network of river basin organisations to share expertise on trans-boundary water management and integrated knowledge management.
- July - 2008 **World Health Organisation, Vientiane Lao PDR**
- One of two consultants that facilitated discussions for the annual conference on 'Avian Influenza Preparedness' hosted for I/NGO media and communication departments to prepare their annual plans and share expertise on local knowledge and experience. Contributions were also made from medical anthropologists looking at cultural drivers of influenza and how to incorporate these ideas into future plans. These discussions were

consolidated into a detailed report which was circulated to all participants.

- 2002 – 2003 **Red Cross, Japan**
Administrative assistant/intern in Takayamma City Red Cross
- March 2002 **Andhika Shipping Lines (shipping and logistics), Indonesia**
Quality Management Representative Assistant
Responsible for translating the Standard Operational Procedures (SOP) manual from Indonesian to English and ensured that the documents complied with international safety regulations and company policy.
- 2001- 2002 **South East Asian Students Activities Conference (SEASAC)**
Project Coordinator, Indonesia
Coordinated student associations in South East Asia to meet monthly to plan and carry out various social activities; international competitions (art/sport) and fundraising events to bring different communities together. Key event organised was the Myanmar Arts Conference 2001.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Year of Birth 1983
Nationality Belgian/British

LANGUAGES

English (mother tongue)
French (working knowledge)
Indonesian (working knowledge)
Spanish (basic)
Lao (beginner)