

Highly motivated, analytical, team-player and goal-oriented development professional with private sector background. Has contributed to the implementation of development projects and strategy in over 20 countries across Africa, Asia & Latin America. HQ experience includes programme design & implementation, policy, research and strategy.

Areas of Expertise: *Private Sector Engagement, Inclusive Market Development, Agriculture Investment, Public Private Partnerships, Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICT4D), Food & Livelihoods, Knowledge Exchange and Extension Services and Women Empowerment on Care Work.*

## Relevant Work Experience

04.2017 -	<p><b>CABI   The Netherlands &amp; Austria.</b> CABI is a not-for-profit intergovernmental organisation that improves people's lives worldwide by providing information and applying scientific expertise to solve problems in agriculture and the environment.</p> <p>- <i>Private Sector Engagement Manager</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing and managing CABI's Private Sector Engagement and Public Private Partnerships (PPP) strategy and portfolio.</li> <li>• Researching, establishing and managing new partnerships with private sector companies both at the corporate and program levels.</li> <li>• Conceptualizing and implementing strategies and work processes to significantly grow CABI's Private Sector Engagement portfolio globally, as well as increasing CABI's country member base.</li> <li>• Representing CABI externally on issues of Private Sector Engagement and Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships, including the 7th High Level UN Least Developed Countries Ministerial Conference, UNECE's International Forum on people-first PPPs for the Sustainable Development Goals and the European Development Days.</li> </ul>
03.2019 -	<p><b>CASA Programme   Austria.</b> Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA) is a 5-year and £30 million programme financed by the UK Department for International Development. This flagship programme for agricultural investment seeks to promote and create agribusiness models which support equitable benefit for smallholder farmer groups. The programme's aim is to increase the contribution of farming to economic growth, climate resilience and nutritional health of populations in low- and middle-income countries. <i>Read more at: <a href="https://casaprogramme.com/">https://casaprogramme.com/</a></i></p> <p>- <i>Relationship Manager</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying key stakeholders (investors, donors and lead firms among others), bottlenecks and opportunities to generate new evidence (from high quality research) and spaces for stakeholder interaction, to substantially increase the amount of investment available for agribusinesses and smallholder farmers across Africa and Asia.</li> </ul>
07.2019 01.2020	<p>- <i>Interim Research Lead</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing and commissioning an ambitious research agenda to inform the communications and engagement strategy of the programme, while contributing to the wider literature in the field of investments in smallholder farmers and agribusinesses.</li> </ul>
11.2016 -	<p><b>Austrian Network for Information and Communication Technologies for Development   Austria.</b> ICT4D.at is an international NGO that works with grassroots organizations in the fields of science, arts, education, media and ICTs to improve the lives of people living in poverty.</p> <p>- <i>Directing Member (organisational strategy, fundraising and program advisory committees)</i> -</p>
09.2012 10.2016	<p><b>Oxfam GB   Oxford, UK.</b> Oxfam is an international confederation of 17 organizations working in approximately 90 countries worldwide to find solutions to poverty and related injustice around the world.</p> <p>- <i>Private Sector Adviser (Livelihoods, Women Empowerment and ICTs)</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Led Oxfam's participation in mNutrition (funded by DFID and managed by GSMA), including management of a 5-member team. This 3-year program took place in 13 different countries across SSA and Asia. It aimed to improve nutrition levels of 3 million women and children through mobile based value added services. <i>Read more at: <a href="http://bit.ly/1kvtjSN">http://bit.ly/1kvtjSN</a></i></li> <li>• Led Oxfam's work on ICTs for Women's Economic Empowerment and Care Work (WE-Care), funded by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Including management of a 4-member team and the design, implementation and analysis of a Randomised Control Trial. <i>Read more at: <a href="http://oxf.am/Zu5T">http://oxf.am/Zu5T</a></i></li> <li>• Advised regional and field staff on the promotion of innovation in Oxfam's livelihoods programs (e.g. reducing the cost of service delivery and increasing beneficiary outreach). Countries advised include Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. <i>Read more at: <a href="http://bit.ly/1kcLFbp">http://bit.ly/1kcLFbp</a></i></li> <li>• Researched, established and managed new partnerships with private sector companies across the ICT, agriculture and finance sectors to promote a positive effect on increasing food security, social protection, and the development impact of Oxfam's Economic Justice programming.</li> <li>• Developed innovative, insightful and strategic projects and programs that used new technologies to deliver food security and knowledge exchange and extension to smallholder farmers in Africa and Asia.</li> <li>• Project managed a consortium between Oxfam, the International Sustainability Unit (HRH the Prince of Wales) and GSMA to conduct a landscape survey on the use of mobile phones for Sustainable Agriculture.</li> <li>• Represented Oxfam externally on issues of ICTs for Development, including the British Parliament (<a href="http://bit.ly/1mdHqk4">http://bit.ly/1mdHqk4</a>), Clarence House and international conferences (<a href="http://bit.ly/1ogSR6F">http://bit.ly/1ogSR6F</a>)</li> </ul>

09.2011 04.2012	<p><b><u>TechnoServe   Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.</u></b> International NGO focused on the promotion of agribusinesses and micro-entrepreneurship for poverty reduction.</p> <p>- <i>ICT4D (Information and Communication Technologies for Development) Consultant</i> -</p> <p><b>ICT4D Strategy.</b> Consultancy to identify key components of successful mobile based agriculture business models with potential impact on poverty reduction. This consultancy included secondary and primary research, and resulted in a set of recommendations for the design and implementation of Technoserve's global ICT4D strategy</p>
03.2011 05.2011	<p><b><u>IDS for DFID   Brighton, UK.</u></b> Project carried out by the Institute of Development Studies (University of Sussex) for the UK Department for International Development (DFID).</p> <p>- <i>Research Assistant – Understanding Chinese Investment and its Impacts in East Africa.</i> Project to identify and evaluate the implications of Chinese Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on African development.</p>
06.2009 07.2010	<p><b><u>Caritas International   Innsbruck, Austria.</u></b> International NGO focused on the eradication of poverty and social inequalities in Asia, Africa, South America and Eastern Europe.</p> <p>- <i>Project Manager</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitored and evaluated the implementation of eight projects carried out by Caritas Armenia and financed by Caritas Tirol. The projects focused on education, social protection, and the development of refugee communities.</li> <li>• Designed and implemented the first international volunteer program of Caritas Tirol.</li> </ul>
09.2008 04.2009	<p><b><u>Seva Mandir   Udaipur, Rajasthan, India.</u></b> Grass-roots NGO focused on rural development in state of Rajasthan.</p> <p>- <i>Microfinance Adviser</i> -</p> <p><b>Self Help Groups (SHGs).</b> Microfinance program for the empowerment of 10.000 women.</p>
03.2008 04.2008	<p><b><u>Fundación Cibervoluntarios   Madrid, Spain.</u></b> Foundation focused on ICT education in rural areas in Spain.</p> <p>- <i>Project Manager</i> -</p>
09.2005 02.2008	<p><b><u>IBM   Madrid, Spain.</u></b> International provider of IT Solutions and Services.</p> <p>- <i>Consultant - IT Consultancy.</i> Clients included: Santander Bank Group and FCC Group</p> <p>- <i>Operations Specialist - Business Management Operations.</i> Department for Spain, Portugal, Greece, Israel and Turkey.</p>

## **Other Work Experience**

09.2005 06.2008	<p><b><u>Telefonica, Movistar   Madrid, Spain.</u></b> Telefonica is one of the world leaders integrated operator in the telecommunication sector, providing communication, information and entertainment solutions, with presence in Europe, Africa and Latin America.</p> <p>- <i>New Products and Services Adviser</i> -</p> <p><b><u>BERIT NGO   Madrid, Spain.</u></b> International NGO focused on humanitarian aid in Africa and South America.</p> <p>- <i>Volunteer in Street Children Programs- Maputo, Mozambique.</i> (07.2007-08.2007) ; <b>Lima, Peru.</b> (07.2006-08.2006)</p>
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## **Education**

10.2010 09.2011	<p><b><u>MA Globalization and Development   IDS, Institute of Development Studies (University of Sussex)   Brighton, U.K.</u></b></p> <p><i>Main Fields of Study:</i> Private Sector Engagement; ICTs for Development; China in Africa; Post-Conflict.</p> <p><i>Dissertation Title:</i> 'Can Mobile Micro-Insurance be used as a Tool for Poverty Reduction?'</p>
09.2001 09.2005	<p><b><u>BS Business and Economic Administration   Carlos III University   Madrid, Spain.</u></b></p> <p><i>Main fields of study:</i> Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Production and Operational Management; Marketing; Strategic Management; Accounting; Financial Management.</p>
08.2003 01.2004	<p><b><u>Erasmus Scholarship   Maastricht University   Maastricht, The Netherlands.</u></b></p> <p><i>Main fields of study:</i> International Production and Logistics; International Competitiveness and Strategy.</p>

## **Additional Information**

<b>Publications:</b>	<p>- Huggins C. &amp; Valverde A. (2018). "Information technology approaches to agriculture and nutrition in the developing world: a systems theory analysis of the mNutrition program in Malawi", <i>Springer (Food Security 2018 - 10:151)</i></p> <p>- Valverde A. (2016). "WE-Care Malawi Program Report; Linking unpaid care work and mobile value added services in Malawi", Oxfam International, UK.</p> <p>- Batchelor S. et al. (2014). "Is there a role for Mobiles to support Sustainable Agriculture in Africa?", <i>Atlantis Press</i></p> <p>- Valverde A. (2014). "Incorporating the Use of ICTs into Oxfam's Markets-based Livelihoods Programmes: A guidance paper", <i>Oxfam International, UK.</i></p> <p>- Valverde A. (2011). "Can Mobile Micro-Insurance be used as a Tool for Poverty Reduction?", <i>Akademiker Verlag</i></p>
<b>Courses:</b>	<p>Evaluating Social Programs   Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, MITx</p> <p><i>Main fields of study:</i> Randomized Control Trials</p>
<b>Awards:</b>	<p>Best Student Recognition 2006   IBM Spain.</p> <p>Annual award granted to the most successful recently graduated workers in IBM EMEA.</p>
<b>Languages:</b>	<p><i>Fluent:</i> Spanish, English; <i>Functional:</i> German; <i>Basic:</i> Portuguese</p>