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**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:** Knowledge Manager, Knowledge, Impact and Policy Cluster

**THEMATIC EXPERTISE:** Evidence informed policy and practice; knowledge management; digital communications; Open Access/Open Data

**LANGUAGES:** English

**GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE:** South Asia, East Africa

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## OVERVIEW

Alan Stanley has over 20 years' experience working globally to support the effective use of research evidence on a broad range of development and environmental issues. Key themes throughout his work have been promoting the use of research evidence to inform good decision making and facilitating open and equitable knowledge sharing using digital technologies. For 15 years he was manager and senior editor of Eldis – one of the leading global portals supporting access to research on international development issues. He is currently a convenor of the IDS Shaping Policy with Evidence short course. In addition, he works on several projects at IDS supporting effective knowledge sharing and evidence uptake with international partners and networks. Alan has worked extensively with global partners to develop user-centred approaches and tools for knowledge exchange and evidence use relevant to particular country contexts and appropriate to specific audiences.

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## EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1987 – 1990 BSc (Hons) Environmental Science

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## RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2017 – PRESENT **Knowledge Manager**, Knowledge, Impact and Policy Cluster, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK

Management of a small team focused on supporting the knowledge management practice of IDS research teams and global partners through the design and delivery of effective policies, processes, digital knowledge services and learning products. Development and management of project and strategic learning partnerships with national and international policy, academic and civil society partners in developing countries. Currently the research uptake and engagement lead on two FCDO programmes - Better Assistance in Crises Research (BASIC Research) and the Covid-19 Learning, Evidence and Research Programme in Bangladesh (CLEAR). Other current and recently completed projects include:

- Covid Collective
- Covid-19 Responses for Equity (CORE)
- GODAN Action (University of Wageningen, 2016-2019)
- Human Development Innovation Fund (Palladium, 2016-2020)

2010 – 2017 **Senior Thematic Convenor and Eldis Manager**, Open Knowledge and Digital Services, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK

Management of Eldis, oversight of a portfolio of knowledge products co-produced by IDS Knowledge Services and partners. Projects included:

- Mobilising Knowledge for Development (DFID, 2007-2013)
- Global Open Knowledge Hub (DFID, 2013-2016)

2003 – 2009 **Senior Editor, Eldis**, Knowledge Services, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK

Line management responsibility for the Eldis team and responsibility for the production of consistently high-quality content for the Eldis service. Leading on and supporting editors in the development of collaborative products and

new projects with programme partners.

1997 – 2000

**Research Officer**, Friends of the Earth EWNI, UK

Compiling, analysing and presenting data on the status and condition of UK wildlife sites used to advocate for changes in UK legislation.

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## SELECTED EXPERIENCE

### SKILLS

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- Strong facilitation and knowledge sharing skills needed to design and deliver effective learning support for partners
- Excellent writing and editing skills
- Ability to quickly assess the timeliness and relevance of new research ideas and place them in a policy context
- Strong interpersonal skills and excellent presentation and verbal communication skills
- Excellent understanding of established and emerging online and offline publishing and networking tools and practice
- Project management skills required to deliver complex projects with multiple partners

### EXPERIENCE

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- Over 12 years' experience in a senior role managing the day to day production of content for a variety of high quality and successful knowledge services
- Over 10 years' experience designing and delivering high quality capacity support and learning programmes for partners around the world
- Over 10 years' experience of advocating for the adoption of Open Knowledge approaches (Open Access and Open Data) in global development research, policy, and practice
- Over 10 years' experience developing and managing complex projects with multiple partners in developing country contexts
- Over 10 years' experience of designing and implementing monitoring and evaluation strategies for knowledge-based services including Logical frameworks, Theory of Change and Outcome mapping approaches.
- Over 20 years' experience of using digital technologies as a communication tool in a research, policy, and advocacy context
- 6 years as Convenor of the European Association on Development Institutions Information Management Working Group (EADI IMWG)
- Convenor and facilitator of the current "Shaping Policy with Evidence" short course at IDS

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## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

- [Best Practices in Strengthening Evidence Use by Government in Education Policy and Beyond: A Rapid Research Scoping Review for the Queen Rania Foundation and the Jordanian Ministry of Education](#)
- [User Personas: Participatory Systemic Engagement: Data Users and User Needs](#)
- [Strengthening Networks and Building Relationships to Increase the Impact of Global Development Research | The Impact Initiative](#)
- [Making the 'Evolutionary Leap': Using Open Knowledge Approaches to Improve Development Outcomes](#)
- [Introducing Open Knowledge as an approach to knowledge sharing in global development](#)

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## OTHER SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

### DIGITAL SKILLS

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- Experience of human-centred/user-centred design approaches
- Operational knowledge of Drupal, WordPress and Open Journal Systems content management systems
- Excellent understanding of Google Analytics and other web/social media tracking tools and metrics analysis; Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) principles
- Relational database management and Boolean query building; Open Data and Linked Open Data approaches and standards for data management
- Data visualisation tools – Kumu; Tableaux; infogr.am
- Graphics and video editing packages – Adobe Creative Suite/Creative Cloud