

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jessica Meeker



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OVERVIEW

Jessica Meeker is a registered Public Health Nutritionist and research uptake specialist. Currently working within the Knowledge, Impact and Policy team at IDS, Jessica has responsibility for managing the research uptake for a number of nutrition research programmes. Her experience includes developing and implementing strategies for research uptake, stakeholder engagement and policy influence for improved nutrition. Jessica has research interests in the triple burden of malnutrition, food systems and nutrition sensitive approaches.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2010 - 2011	MSc Public Health Nutrition. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
2000 - 2003	BSc Hons Marine Geography. University of Wales, Cardiff

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2012 - Present	Nutrition Convenor / Knowledge Officer Institute of Development Studies, UK
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In her role as a Knowledge Officer and previously as a Nutrition Convenor, Jessica is responsible for the design and delivery of research uptake strategies for large research programme consortia. This includes:

- Project Management of work streams or whole projects with significant focus on tailoring strategies for uptake of the research for improved impact.
- Centring the work on the target audience, understanding their needs and preferences when designing strategies for influence.
- Conducting and training 'Network Mapping' methodology.
- Hosting stakeholder events to encourage the use of evidence in decision making for policies and programmes.
- Reflective learning on 'what works' for policy influence and impact.
- Using innovative methods for packaging and communicating research.
- Writing and editing research and policy briefs.
- Conducting literature and evidence reviews both within nutrition and policy influence.
- Synthesising evidence on nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive actions, in particular the linkages between agriculture and nutrition and the evidence for multi-sectoral coordination.
- Lecturing on the causes and consequences of malnutrition.
- Design and delivery of nutrition and advocacy training for the SUN CSN.
- Budget management & donor reporting.

Selected project examples:

Jessica worked as the **Research Uptake Manager** for the inception phase of the multi-partner research programme consortium, **Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia**. She was responsible for the development of the research uptake strategy which was based on extensive stakeholder engagement, understanding barriers and facilitators to accessing and using evidence in decision making, network and policy mapping. The strategy including tailored activities for each country context.

Jessica was the **lead for three workstreams** within the Irish Aid funded **AgriDiet** programme. Jessica led on a global evidence review on agriculture and nutrition linkages and was responsible for the development and delivery of knowledge mobilisation strategies and stakeholder platforms. The strategies were developed to respond to local stakeholders needs and actively engage them in the update and application of research knowledge.

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| 2011 –2012 | <p>Research Consultant, Save the Children UK, London</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detailed research on topics within nutrition, hunger and livelihoods. - Literature reviews and annotated bibliographies. - Full reports and evidence summaries, contributing to the global nutrition campaigns. |
| Sept – Nov 2011 | <p>Research Assistant, Centre for International Health and Development, University College London</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantitative and qualitative data collection including semi-structured questionnaires and analysis and donor reporting. - Development of a competency framework for the nutrition in emergencies sector (accepted for publication in peer review journal). - Assisting with development of nutrition in emergencies training materials. |
| 2009 – 2010 | <p>Madre Theresa Nutrition Centre, Cusco, Peru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Menu planning to improve dietary diversity; Food preparation; Assisting with young child feeding. <p>San Juan de Dios Health Clinic, Cusco, Peru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support of Infant and young child feeding; Rehabilitation of disabled children. |
| 2008 – 2009 | <p>Head of Consulting Charterhouse Consulting, Hove, UK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Team management, motivation and performance reviews. - Client management, ensuring consistent and effective communication. - Co-ordination of tender process for both public and private sectors. - Development and launch of new business sector campaign. |

PUBLICATIONS

Meeker, J. AgriDiet stakeholder workshops. AgriDiet Research Brief. July 2015

Meeker, J editor, Improving nutrition through agriculture in Ethiopia. AgriDiet policy analysis. May 2015.

Meeker, J editor, Improving nutrition through agriculture in Tanzania. AgriDiet policy briefing. December 2014.

Meeker, J and Haddad, L. A state of the art review of agriculture-nutrition linkages. 2013

Meeker, J et al. Development of a competency framework for the nutrition in emergencies sector. Public Health Nutrition, 2013, 17(3):689-99

Department for International Development. An update of 'The neglected crisis of undernutrition; evidence for action'. 2012

Save the Children. Superfood for babies; how overcoming barriers to breastfeeding will save children's lives. 2013

Save the Children. A life free from hunger. 2012.