

Alyson Brody

DR ALYSON BRODY

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT RESEARCHER AND CONSULTANT

SUMMARY

I am a gender and development researcher and consultant with over 20 years' experience and a Ph.D. in Social Anthropology (with a focus on gender and development) from SOAS, London University.

I have provided technical assistance for multiple non-governmental, bilateral and multilateral organisations, including UN Volunteers, the Asian Development Bank, the World Food Programme, the European Union, the UK Department for International Development, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Swiss Agency for Development; Irish Aid; Oxfam; the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development; the Tropical Health and Education Trust and the UK Commonwealth Secretariat.

The former head of BRIDGE, a globally-respected gender and development research programme based at the Institute of Development Studies, I have a track record of leading innovative research and knowledge programmes and of writing and disseminating ground-breaking policy-oriented publications and developing training materials aimed at supporting development policy-makers and practitioners to integrate gender and equality across their work, as well as generating knowledge on a range of gender-specific issues. I have wide thematic expertise, including on women's political participation; gender-responsive food security and climate change policy and programme design; gender-sensitive health work; violence against women and girls; and trafficking and migration.

I have extensive experience in supporting gender mainstreaming; conducting gender-responsive social research and policy analysis; policy advising; promoting organisational learning through participatory approaches; running high-level multi-stakeholder events on equality; and diversity issues.

I have multi-country experience, and specialist knowledge of Southeast Asia (particularly Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar), Central Asia (Mongolia, Georgia, Kyrgyz Republic) and West Africa (Senegal, Mali, Benin).

EDUCATION

1999-2003 Ph.D. in Social Anthropology (with focus on Gender and Development),
School of Oriental and African Studies, London University
My research focused on issues of migration and women's economic empowerment in Thailand, using participant observation methods, surveys and life story analysis

1993-1994 M.A. (Distinction) in Social Anthropology–
SOAS, London University
My dissertation argues for a more subtle examination of men and masculinities in the context of research and writing on prostitution in Thailand

1984-1988 Bachelor of Arts: French Language and Literature
University of Nottingham

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance gender consultancies

- 30/9/19 – 10/12/19** **Research Manager, Gender Equality Movement Building Project, Royal Commonwealth Society**
- Research manager for a series of research papers on different aspects of gender equality and LGBTI movement building. This entails advising research consultants, ensuring quality control and editing papers so they are publication ready.
- 2/1/19 – 30/6/19** **Developing Gender Mainstreaming Capacity-Building Strategy, Commonwealth Secretariat**
- Technical support to the Commonwealth Secretariat gender team in strategic thinking and planning processes for the design of a revised mainstreaming strategy. This involved conducting a participatory gender audit and consultation process and producing a report outlining the analysis and recommendations.

- 1/3/19 – 20/5/19** **Gender Expert for Transforming THET and Health Partnership's Approach to Gender. Tropical Health and Education Trust**
- Research manager for a qualitative research project to map the gender dimensions of health institutions in Somaliland and Uganda, with a focus on identifying barriers and enablers for female health professionals. This involved developing an inception report, designing the research methodology and framework, preparing research tools and liaising with research teams in Somaliland and Uganda. The key output was a published report.
- 24/12/18 – 31/3/19** **Regional Reports on Volunteerism for Agenda 2030, UN Volunteers Programme**
- Writer and editor for the five UNV Plan of Action regional synthesis reports on Integrating Volunteerism into the 2030 Agenda with key recommendations for future planning. This entailed liaising with heads of regional offices in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Europe and the Arab States. The reports informed high-level regional fora in each of the five UN regions (Africa; Latin America and the Caribbean; Europe; Asia and the Pacific; and the Arab States).
- 17/9/18 – 30/6/19** **Country Gender Profile of the Kyrgyz Republic, Asian Development Bank**
- Lead researcher and author for a comprehensive gender assessment of the Kyrgyz Republic for the ADB, which will inform future funding decisions, strategic planning and bilateral partnerships. The assignment includes conducting an in-depth gender analysis of social norms, women's economic and political empowerment, violence against women and girls, education, health, and women's time poverty; and a detailed gender assessment of ADB priority areas, including transport, water and sanitation, energy, finance and education. The main output will be a published report that will be both a public good and an internal resource for the ADB.
- 1/4/18 – 15/6/18** **Country Gender Profile of Mongolia, European Union**
- Lead researcher and author for a comprehensive gender analysis of Mongolia for the EU to inform funding decisions, strategic planning and bilateral partnerships. The assignment included a six-week period in-country where desk research and primary research through focus group discussions and interviews with key stakeholders was conducted. The main output was a report that was distributed to key stakeholders in Mongolia and used as an internal resource by the EU. I was employed by GIZ for this assignment.
- 1/10/17 – 14/5/18** **Gender Country Assessment of Georgia, ADB**
- Lead researcher and author for a comprehensive gender assessment of Georgia for the ADB. The assignment included a two-week period in-country where primary research through focus group discussions and interviews with key stakeholders was conducted. The report includes an overview of gender issues in Georgia and a detailed gender assessment of ADB priority areas, including transport, water and sanitation, energy and finance. The main output was a published report.
- 1/4/17 – 31/5/17** **Online conference coordinator, Leeds University Global Development Department and INTRAC**
- I conceptualised and coordinated a global online conference on issues of power, gender, knowledge, impact and global development partnerships, which attracted over 250 participants globally.
- 1/2/17 – 31/4/17** **Gender and Development Advisor - Research Project on Climate Change and Heritage in Kiribati (Arts and Humanities Council Funded), Bath University**
- Advisor to research team working on a visual arts and development project in Kiribati. This role has involved working closely with the team and delivering a workshop on gender, climate change and development.
- 10/10/16 – 1/11/16** **Author - online course on gender and science, SciDev**
- I designed and wrote an online training course to enable natural and life science researchers and students to better understand the importance of integrating gender into their research, and will provide them with evidence and tools to be able to do so effectively.
- 1/7/16 – 1/5/17** **Gender consultant for World Food Programme partnership 'Gender Mainstreaming from the Ground Up', Institute of Development Studies**
- I worked closely with three World Food Programme country offices (in Benin, Senegal and Cambodia) to support more effective 'ground up' gender mainstreaming approaches using participatory approaches to learning and capacity building
 - I oversaw participatory action learning projects on programmes that include school feeding and nutrition; and using evidence base to inform improved planning and practice

Employment with Organisations

- 01/2010 – 06/2016** **Senior Gender Convenor and BRIDGE Manager, BRIDGE, Institute of Development Studies (IDS)**
08/2007– 12/2009 **Senior Research Officer, BRIDGE, IDS**
- Strategic leadership of BRIDGE a global Gender and Development Research and Knowledge Programme
 - Joint leader of IDS Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster
 - Led innovative research and knowledge sharing programmes on critical gender and development issues, including women's political representation, unpaid care work, climate change and food security
 - Joint leader of IDS Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster

- Writing and editing high-level outputs, including targeted materials for bilateral and multilateral organisations, and BRIDGE Cutting Edge Packs and briefing papers
- Founded and led a USAID-funded partnership programme with the World Food Programme designed to promote organisational learning on gender mainstreaming for all WFP countries through participatory action learning methodologies, capacity building and knowledge sharing
- Built organisational capacity on gender mainstreaming
- Undertook consultancies for bilateral and multilateral agencies, including UN Women, DFID, SDC and the OECD DAC Gendernet (see examples in box below)

Consultancies conducted through BRIDGE

01/2015 – 05/2016 Gender consultant, UK DFID

- I led a project for DFID to develop a set of materials to raise awareness and promote effective gender integration for the International Climate Fund.

01/2015 – 03/2015 Gender consultant for Oxfam, Myanmar

- I researched and wrote a policy paper to promote the value of quotas for improving women's political representation in Myanmar. The paper was published by Oxfam GB.
- I organised and facilitated a multi-stakeholder roundtable on gender and food security for a range of Myanmar-based organisations, including UN agencies, bilateral donors, INGOs and local farmers' organisations
- I was research advisor for a major project on gender and food security in Myanmar

06/2013 – 05/2014 Gender consultant, UN Women Asia-Pacific office, Bangkok

- I coordinated a UN Women-led research programme to understand the structures, processes, barriers and enablers for women's access to justice in South East Asia. I worked in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development. The project involved organisations in eight Mekong region countries. It promoted a feminist participatory action research methodology and included a strong knowledge sharing component.

04/2012 – 06/2012 Workshop Coordinator, OECD DAC Gendernet

- I worked with the OECD Gendernet co-ordinator to develop an agenda and identify speakers for a day-long workshop with the aim of promote greater understanding of gender in the context of climate change and green growth for a high-level group of gender advisors from multilateral and bilateral member organisations.

04/2009 – 09/2010 Researching and writing policy brief on gender, agriculture and food security, Irish Aid

- I researched and wrote an internal policy paper to support Irish Aid policy development on gender, agriculture and food security and through a review of existing evidence and presentation of recommendations

05/2008 Researcher and author, DFID

- I researched and wrote a policy report to support DFID policy development on gender and climate change through a review of existing evidence. The paper was published by BRIDGE and has been widely cited.

02/2008 Researcher and author, OECD DAC Gendernet

- I researched and wrote a policy brief to outline constraints and opportunities in the current funding environment for women's rights organisations, and to provide recommendations on ways forward. The paper was very successful, and was translated into French and Spanish

10/2007 Workshop Coordinator, SDC

- I organised and ran a workshop for SDC staff and partners on trafficking in women, which was instrumental in guiding their policies on this issue.

05/2005 – 08/2007 Gender Resource Guide Editor, Eldis, IDS

- Managing Gender Resource Guide for Eldis, an online development research library
- Creating accessible webpages on cutting edge gender and development issues
- Designing and coordinating an impact evaluation of Eldis

05/2002 – 04/2005 Communications and Programme Coordinator, Imp-Act, IDS

- Designing and implementing a dissemination strategy for Imp-Act, a three year action research programme promoting capacity-building in appropriate, useful monitoring and evaluation systems for microfinance practitioners in four global regions
- Writing, editing and publishing programme materials, including an IDS journal, Briefing Notes for Policy and Practice, a brochure and a book

07/1997 – 12/1999 International Relations Officer, Centre for the Protection of Children's Rights, Bangkok, Thailand

- Coordinating a training on child protection for multi-stakeholder teams in the Mekong region, with a focus on addressing sexual abuse and exploitation of girls and boys
- Setting up exchange links between CPCR staff and UK agencies

- Leading a research project to scope services needed for boy victims of sexual abuse
- Fund-raising and report-writing

01/1997 – 07/1997 Researcher, *Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, Bangkok*

- Preparing conference report for a ground-breaking international conference on trafficking in women in the Asia-Pacific region
- Researching and writing a report on the rights of sex workers

07/1990 – 01/1997 English Teacher, Japan, Thailand

- Teacher of English as a foreign language in Japan, Thailand and the U.K., including posts at the British Council Bangkok, Saint John's International School, Bangkok; and a Japanese international school in the U.K.

08/1988 – 08/1989 Assistant English Teacher, *Japanese Exchange and Teaching Programme, Nagasaki, Japan*

- Assistant English Teacher in Japanese high schools located in Nagasaki as part of the JET programme – a scheme run by the Japanese education ministry which aimed to promote cultural exchange

PUBLICATIONS

(Forthcoming) Country Gender Assessment for the Kyrgyz Republic, Asian Development Bank

2019, Introduction to Exploring Gender Equality in the Health Workforce: A study in Uganda and Somaliland, THET (Tropical Health and Education Trust)

2019, Five Plan of Action Regional Synthesis Reports on Integrating Volunteerism into the 2030 Agenda (Writer/editor), UN Volunteers

2018, Georgia Gender Country Assessment, Manila: ADB

2016, Political Gender Quotas: Key Debates and Values for Myanmar, Oxfam GB

2014, Gender and Food Security: Towards Gender-Just Food and Nutrition Security, BRIDGE Cutting Edge Pack (main author), IDS

2011, Gender and Climate Change, BRIDGE Cutting Edge Pack (Editor), IDS

2009, Gender and Governance Overview Report, BRIDGE Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and Governance (author), IDS

2008, Innovative Funding For Women's Organisations, OECD DAC Gendernet Issues Brief, OECD

2007, Dirt and Development: Alternative Modernities in Thailand, in *Dirt: New Geographies of Cleanliness and Contamination* (Campkin, B. and Cox, R. eds.), Taurus

2007, Keeping it Clean: Politics of the Mundane in a Bangkok Shopping Mall, in *Livelihoods at the Margins: Surviving the City*, UCL Press

2006, 'Invisible yet necessary: order, hygiene and the role of cleaners in a Bangkok shopping mall', in *Cleaning up the global economy: janitors face neo-liberalism* (Aguiar, L. and Herod, A eds.), Blackwell

2006, Prostitution in Thailand, in *International Approaches to Prostitution: Law and Policy in Europe and Asia* (Gangoli G, Westernmareland, N, eds.), Polity Press

2006, 'Beyond Duty and Desire: Motivations for Women's migration to Bangkok', in *Women, Work and Migration: Perspectives from Asia*, Sage

2005, *Money with a Mission: Managing the Social Performance of Microfinance*, ITDG (editor)

REFEREES

Kelly Shephard

(former line manager at IDS)

K.Shephard@ids.ac.uk; +441273915795

Mary Alice Rosero

(Gender specialist, ADB)

arosero@adb.org; +6326831724

Louise McGrath

(THET Head of Programmes)

Louise.McGrath@thet.org; +4402072903888

Rory Evans

(Programme Lead,

Royal Commonwealth Society)

rory.evans@thercs.org; +44 (0)20 3727 4305

CONTACT DETAILS

17 Wolfe Avenue, York YO31 0SF, North Yorkshire | Alysonbrody@gmail.com; Ph: 01904 903392; Mob: 07753617834

LinkedIn profile: <https://uk.linkedin.com/in/alyson-brody-a410022>