

Boris van Westering

Experienced Program Manager and Consultant with a strong background in media development, climate communications, and sustainability. Proven track record in leading teams, strategic planning, and resource mobilization. Notable achievements include successful initiation and coordination with GSES of the Sustainability benchmark for Netherlands Red Cross, Oxfam Novib, War Child, Cordaid and Save the Children and the development of ESG/CSR strategic guidance knowledge tools for PARTOS members. Expertise in project management, budgeting and financial analysis, effective communication, and team coordination. Career goal: to continue advancing sustainable development initiatives through innovative media strategies and partnerships.

Experience:

Independent Consultant, 08/2022 - Current

Building Bridges Advies, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

- Authored the Partos CSR Guide. Facilitated expert sessions on sustainability/ESG for Partos members. Organized launch event and outreach activities. Assignment duration 4 months.
- Led and managed Sustainability Benchmark pilot for aid sector organizations such as, Partos, Oxfam Novib, Save the Children, War Child, Cordaid, Fair Climate Fund, and Red Cross. Produced first benchmark report and established of an Aid sector community of practice on ESG/ Sustainability. Assignment duration 7 months.
- Served as Climate Journalism Advisor to the MENA Team and Led advocacy efforts for COP27 representing Internews/EJN. Co-authored and developed the Sharaka project, securing 1.7mln USD for inclusive Climate Action in the MENA. Assignment duration 9 months.
- Climate Journalism Advisor, Fundraising and Partnership Development for International Media Support (IMS). Co-authored the IMS climate journalism strategy and conducted donor mapping and outreach. Assignment duration 6 months.
- Developed climate journalism strategies for MENA teams at DWA and Thomson Foundation. Assignment duration: 2 months.
- Led project designing Rewriting Climate Headlines, involving artists, designers & investigative journalists. Designed MA course on climate narratives at KABK/ARIJ. Presented the Exhibition and ARIJForum in Amman and the COP29 (virtual). Advised UNESCO on an Art & Journalism project for World Press Freedom Day in Santiago de Chile. Assignment duration: 9 months.
- Proposal writer for Postcode Loterij & EMIF on climate journalism in Europe. Developed programs and organizational strategies for EJC. Assignment duration: 6 months.
- Provided specialized guidance on climate journalism to support NCEA experts. Facilitated partner identification activities in Jordan and East Africa. Assignment duration 3 months.
- Guided Muwatin on media-focused fundraising and enhanced business expansion efforts. Advice resulted in a strategic fundraising strategy and external pitch document for donors. Assignment duration 6 months.
- Enhanced protection measures for journalists via advisory services to UNESCO Iraq. Conducted workshops for Iraqi police and security forces on the role of independent media and protection mechanisms in Baghdad & Erbil. Assignment duration 6 months.

Program Manager Team Leader MENA-Eurasia / Chair Works Council, 06/2015 - 07/2022**Free Press Unlimited**, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

- Led a team of maximum 12 professionals on media development and independent journalism projects in the MENA/South Asia region.
 - Contributed to organizational decisions and strategic planning during the reorganization.
 - Developed and implemented successful media programs connected to Safety of Journalists, Youth & Gender, Climate Journalism and Disinformation/Media literacy.
 - Accomplishments; Russian Language News Exchange (Multi-donor funding), Support for independent media in Syria (SIDA), Support to independent media in Southern Neighbourhood in partnership with IMS (EU), Advancing the space for climate journalism and media in the Planetary Security Initiative (Dutch MFA).
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Team Manager West Asia, 04/2013 - 04/2015**Hivos**, The Hague, The Netherlands

- Team Coordination of 20 professionals working in the civil society and freedom of expression support program in the West Asia team
 - Program development, acquisition and management about e.g. the inclusion of Female voices in the Syrian Peace Process and Civil Society / Media support in Iraq.
 - Appointed to the Works Council and designated as Security Focal Point for HQ.
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Freelance Consultant / Advisor, 05/2009 - 04/2013**Building Bridges Advies**, Amsterdam, The Netherlands**Project Manager of the Journalism Trainings program Beyond Your World, 03/2010 - 12/2011****LokaalMondiaal**, Arnhem, The Netherlands**Lecturer International Relations & Coordinator Exchange programs Zeytun, 08/2005 - 09/2008****University of Amsterdam**, Amsterdam, The Netherlands**Skills:**

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|------------------------------------|---|
| • Project Management | • Journalism, Civil Society & Climate Communication |
| • Budgeting and financial analysis | • Sustainability & ESG |
| • Effective communication | • Networking & Advocacy |
| • Resource mobilization | • Creative & Positive mindset |
| • Team coordination | |
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Additional information

Certified by Oxford – Said Business School in Leading Sustainable Corporations (2021), Member of the Climate Action Unit Support group & Member of the Sustainable Journalism Partnership. Member of Advisory Board KirkukNow (Iraq), Chair/vice chair of polling station during local and national elections for City Council of Amsterdam.

Education

Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, Amsterdam, 12/2000

Bachelor of Arts: International Management

Exchange program with UQAM-Montreal (CA) and Internship in Boston (USA)

- Dissertation in Knowledge Management Systems
 - Coursework in International Marketing & Sales
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University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, 08/2005

MSc.: International Relations

Internship at Netherlands Embassy in Tehran, Iran & Research at Tel Aviv University in Israel

- Dissertation in Foreign Policy making of the Islamic Republic of Iran vis a vis Israel
 - Coursework in Foreign Policy shaping in the Middle East & North Africa
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Languages

Dutch:	C2	French:	C1
			
Proficient		Advanced	
English:	C2	Farsi:	A1
			
Proficient		Beginner	

Professional development

- Oxford Leading Sustainable Corporations Programme, 2021
 - Leertraject Middle Management at IMK Opleidingen, 2018
 - Emergency Response (BHV), 2018
 - Managing Professionals at Schouten & Nelissen, 2014
 - Successful proposal writing at MDF, 2014
 - Digital Security Training at Tactical Tech, 2013
 - Travel and Safety Security Training at CSD, 2013
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Hobbies and interests

- Politics
- News
- Hospitality
- Food & Cooking
- Traveling
- Cycling