



CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME SAM BICKERSTETH
NATIONALITY British

Sam Bickersteth is an agricultural economist with over a decade of climate policy and programming in agriculture and other sectors in developing countries. His experience is with public, private entities and networks on climate resilience, agriculture and food security, economic development and entrepreneurship.

Sam has designed and delivered poverty reduction programmes as a civil servant, as a Director within PwC's Sustainability and Climate Change group and lead teams at Oxfam, as Chief Executive of the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) and as CEO of Opportunity International UK. Currently he holds advisory roles with the Global Resilience Partnership, the University of Oxford and for The Policy Practice. He has worked for DFID/FCDO's policy departments on climate change, agriculture and natural resources management and led country programmes in Sudan, Bolivia, Nepal, Mozambique and Pakistan.

Areas of expertise include:

- High-level advice on climate change policy and strategy
- International development team leadership
- Financing and implementation of climate, agriculture and livelihoods programmes
- Programme development and design including knowledge systems and impact
- Governance and oversight of complex networked organisations

EXTERNAL ROLES

- Honorary Research Associate, Smith School of Environment and Enterprise, University of Oxford
- Adviser to House of Commons International Development Committee on Climate Finance
- Board Member of Christian Aid and Windle Trust International
- Adviser to Wellcome Trust, Our Planet Our Health programme
- Chair, Low Emissions Development Strategies Global Partnership
- Adviser to London School of Economics/Leeds University Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy

EMPLOYMENT

Present **Climate and Development Principal Consultant, The Policy Practice**

- Strategic adviser to SRI-2030 promoting Sustainable Rice Intensification including in Nigeria and India
- Adviser to UNFCCC Global Climate Action Climate Resilience Pathways and COP Resilience Hubs at COP26 and COP27 for the Global Resilience Partnership (GRP) coordinating targets on food and agriculture, health and climate, and arts and culture.
- Adviser to the Climate Compatible Growth (low carbon energy systems development) programme at University of Oxford
- Strategy review of Legal Response International
- Strategic advice on natural resources governance in post-conflict Ukraine

2019-2021 **CEO of Opportunity International UK**

Financial inclusion, livelihoods and enterprise for African smallholder farmers (and agricultural supply chains) and micro-entrepreneurs:

- Strategic and team leadership, raising performance and improving impact within the US led Opportunity federal structure.
- Global oversight of Digital Finance Services strategy, financial inclusion and impact pathways
- Developing climate resilient microfinance tools and capability
- Fund raising relationships with institutions, Foundations and private donors

2018-2019 **Executive Secretary, Rockefeller Foundation Economic Council on Planetary Health at Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford**

Coordinated global report to investigate the economic and policy case for planetary health bringing together human and ecosystem science, public health, economics and policy. Built framework and team of global experts from Oxford University's Martin School for the Council.

2011- 2018 **Chief Executive, Climate and Development Knowledge Network at PwC**

CDKN is a leading global climate and development knowledge hub transferred to African leadership in 2018. Coordination of £130m multi-donor research and advisory fund financing 400 projects with think-tanks and policy, research, consulting and institutions. Key achievements include:

- Leadership and development of global team, strategy and partnerships across Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America; effective relationships with partner governments and multilateral institutions; Supported national climate strategies, policy and action plans in 30 countries
- Supported developing country planning and capacity in the international climate negotiations contributing to successful outcome in Paris Agreement.
- Establishment of climate resilient programmes in 20 cities
- Established CDKN as thought leader on climate finance including private sector partnerships.

2010-11 **Senior Policy Adviser (Agriculture and Climate Change), DFID**

Commissioned research on agriculture and climate change including on agriculture induced deforestation; International Commission on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change; Agriculture and Climate Day at Cancun COP16 in partnership with World Bank, CGIAR/CCAFS and farmers unions.

2006-2010 **Head of Programme Policy, Oxfam GB**

Led Oxfam GB's technical advisory, research, publications and learning team supporting work on agricultural development, livelihoods, markets, climate adaptation, health, gender and governance.

1992-2006 **Senior Livelihoods Adviser and Head of Country Offices, DFID**

Deputy Head of DFID Mozambique: led preparation of Country Assistance Programme and delivery of food security, humanitarian and conflict management, social development and DFID systems

Head of DFID Bolivia: oversight of country programme including governance grants with World Bank and civil society and programmes in health and agriculture. Led international budget support donor group in partnership with government.

Senior Natural Resources Adviser for DFID Nepal: Designed Livelihoods and (Community) Forestry Programme, Nepal; restructured UK agricultural research assistance

Advice to environmental and agricultural programmes in Asia, Latin America and Overseas Territories. Co-designed DFID's Renewable Natural Resources Research Strategy; DFID's Sustainable Livelihoods Approach. Review of environment and agriculture strategies St Helena in 1996.