



## CURRICULUM VITAE

**NAME** SAM BICKERSTETH  
**NATIONALITY** British

Sam has led and delivered climate and livelihoods programmes notably the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN); he has also worked as a Director within PwC's Sustainability and Climate Change group and with Oxfam and other NGOs. He worked as DFID Senior Livelihoods Adviser and Head of Office as an adviser in both headquarters and country positions (Nepal, Pakistan, Sudan, Mozambique and Bolivia). He was Chief Executive of CDKN, CEO of Opportunity International, Executive Director for the Rockefeller Planetary Health Economics Commission at the Oxford Martin School and Head of Programme Policy for Oxfam.

Now a Principal at The Policy Practice Sam applies political economy analysis across climate humanitarian and development issues including energy system transition, natural resources management, disaster risk management and agriculture (including governance issues in Nigeria, Ukraine and Pakistan) and other policy issues as well as development of a [course](#) on the Political Economy Analysis for Climate Action.

Areas of expertise include:

- Political economy analysis of the nexus of climate, conflict, disaster and humanitarian response
- Political economy analysis training and mentoring
- Climate change and development policy, programmes and actions at community, national and international levels
- Programme development, design and financing including knowledge and research management
- Strategic leadership within international development organisations

### EMPLOYMENT

Present **Climate and Development Consultant/Principal at The Policy Practice**

- Political economy analysis of pre agreed finance for disasters in fragile states for the Centre for Disaster Prevention.
- Assessment of UK Climate Finance for **Humanitarian Response** (for an large international humanitarian NGO);
- Political economy analysis and scoping for FCDO programme on **Conflict and Climate Change Nexus** in Pakistan;
- **Political economy analysis** of the protection of Environmental Defenders for an international think tank.
- **Political economy analysis**, advice and training on energy and e-mobility transitions in Ghana, Vietnam and Zambia for FCDO's **Climate Compatible Growth (CCG)** programme
- Senior Adviser, **SRI-2030** promoting uptake of the System of Rice Intensification, the nature based approach to rice cultivation that curbs methane emissions and enhances yields including establishment of the **Sustainable Rice NDC Alliance**, a global network of rice producing countries.
- Principal Consultant for The Policy Practice including development and delivery of training programmes on **Political Economy of Climate Action**.
- Advice to the Global Resilience Partnership for the **Resilience Hubs at COP26 and COP27** coordinating networks and designing inputs on climate finance, food and agriculture, health and wellbeing, culture and knowledge management synthesis

- Advice to UNFCCC **Global Climate Action Resilience Pathways** coordinating targets with land use, water, agriculture, infrastructure, cities, finance and other networks
- Strategic advice in proposal development, delivery and reviews such as for **PwC and Legal Response International**

#### **ADVISORY ROLES**

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

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

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

- SME and micro-enterprise financing with Urwego Bank Rwanda, Opportunity Bank in Uganda and Ghana
- Strategy and team leadership, fund raising, raising performance and improving impact
- Developing climate resilient microfinance tools and capability

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

Coordinated global research programme on 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 managed previously led from PwC and now transferred to SSN. Coordination of £130m multi-donor research and advisory fund, financing 400 projects with think-tanks and policy, research, consulting, NGOs and other networks. Included:

- Leadership and development of global team, strategy and partnerships across Africa, Asia and Latin America focused around 13 country programmes including Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Indonesia and the Caribbean
- Supported policy and systemic programmatic change in 30 countries (and sub-national governments) including national climate strategies and action plans plus 10 NDCs
- Established CDKN's knowledge management platform as thought leader on topics such as climate finance and disaster risk management
- Supported developing countries in the international climate negotiations contributing to successful outcome in Paris Agreement.
- Establishment of climate resilient programmes in 20 cities

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

Commissioned research on agriculture and climate change including on agriculture induced deforestation; set up International Commission on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change; led Agriculture and Climate Day at Cancun COP16 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 within the Campaigns and Policy Division. Leadership of 50 global advisers, researchers and communications experts supporting work on agricultural development, livelihoods and markets, climate adaptation, health, gender and governance. Global Food Policy lead for Oxfam during 2008 global food crisis.

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

Deputy Head of DFID Mozambique (2 years): Country Assistance Programme and delivery of food security, humanitarian and conflict management, social development and DFID systems

Head of DFID Bolivia (3 years): management of team and programme on civil society/human rights, health and agriculture. Led international budget support donor group and developed poverty reduction programmes to address inequality and governance crisis

Senior Livelihoods Adviser, DFID Nepal (3 years) Designed and established ten year, conflict resilient Livelihoods and (Community) Forestry Programme, Nepal; Chair of Donor Forestry Group. Restructured UK agricultural research with establishment of Hill Agricultural Research Programme

Environment and Agricultural Research Adviser (7 years) to programmes in Pakistan, Egypt, Namibia, Ghana, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, and UK Overseas Territories. Co-designed DFID's Renewable Natural Resources Research Strategy and Sustainable Livelihoods Approach; responsible for UK support to CGIAR institutions in Africa and Middle East; established Socio-Economic Research Programme

### **Selected PUBLICATIONS**

S Bickersteth, N McCulloch and M Tesfamichael (2023) *The Political Economy of Energy Transitions: Learning from Ghana, Zambia and Vietnam* Policy Brief for TPP

Barasa, M., Bickersteth, S., and Hirmer, S. (2022). Supporting integrated energy planning at the sub-national level – The Case of Kenya. Climate Compatible Growth Programme COP27 Policy Brief Series

S Bickersteth and C Angheloiu 2021, *COP26 Resilience Hub Synthesis Report: Key Messages and Future Directions*. Glasgow, UK.

S Myers, H Frumkin, et al August 2020 *Planetary Health: Protecting Nature to Protect Ourselves* (Island Press) Book Chapters 15 and 16 on Economics and Business of Planetary Health with W. Evison

M Dupar, S Bickersteth et al, 2017, *Mainstreaming Climate Compatible Development*

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