

Curriculum Vitae: Sheila Helen Aikman

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British

Senior Lecturer in Education and International Development

20 years' experience in research and teaching in the field of education and international development, with a focus on basic education for both adults and children in the formal and non-formal sectors.

Specialist areas include:

Cultural and linguistic diversity and intercultural and multilingual education; in-depth knowledge and analysis of education for and by indigenous and minorized groups; qualitative and ethnographic research into indigenous epistemologies and intercultural and bilingual education in ***Latin America***; analysis of national and international policies, instruments and processes.

Governance, accountability, participation - through work with NGOs and in particular Oxfam GB has developed expertise in issues of educational governance and active, participatory approaches linked to programme design and implementation, policy advocacy and campaigning through rights-based approaches.

Gender equality and education. Conceptual analysis and policy analysis into the research-policy-practice interface in basic and formal education especially in ***Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.***

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Education and International Development. Institute of Education, University of London, 1994
- MA, Education in Developing Countries, Institute of Education, University of London, 1990.
- Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), Oxford Polytechnic, Lady Spencer Churchill College, 1979.
- MA, Honours Degree in Archaeology, Edinburgh University, 1977, with social anthropology and sociology.

Spencer Foundation Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship with the National Academy of Education, USA.

Professional experience

2008- ongoing	Senior Lecturer, Education and International Development, School of Development, University of East Anglia.
2001 – 2007	Global Education Adviser, Policy Department, OxfamGB, Oxford.
1995 - 2001	Lecturer, Institute of Education, University of London Lecturer, Department of Education and International Development.
1998-1995	Programme Research Officer, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), Copenhagen.

Research and development posts

2006-2008 Project Director – ‘Gender Equality in Education – a mentoring approach’, five country project to develop an innovative approach to gender analysis and planning through mentoring with national education coalitions (Tanzania, Ghana, Bangladesh and Kenya).

2002-2005 Research Project Co-Director – ‘Beyond Access: Gender, Education and Development’- Partnership with Oxfam GB, the Institute of Education, University of London and DFID to develop new knowledge to influence policy and practice for greater gender equality in education.

2002-2008 Commonwealth Education Fund, Co-manager with Actionaid and SavetheChildren, UK: MDG-focused civil society advocacy programme in 16 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. www.commonwealtheducationfund.org

1998 - 2000 Research Project Associate Director – ‘Multi-grade Teaching and Learning’, Institute of Education, University of London. Comparative study of Peru, *Vietnam* and Sri Lanka on extent and nature of multigrade teaching. Policy development at the national and international levels. Led to policy change and changes to teacher training in Vietnam, with larger research follow up with government funding in Peru.

Member of the Advisory Committee of the DFID Research Programme Consortium on Quality Education: Equal. 2006-2010.

Duties and responsibilities

Academic: research and academic writing; teaching and dissertation supervision for Undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral programmes; curriculum development and assessment.

International Development: developing the strategic direction of Oxfam GB’s International Education Programme through:

- o active engagement with research communities, policy development, advocacy and campaigning;
- o professional support to Oxfam’s programme teams in Africa, Asia and Latin America;
- o collaborative research and publishing;

Mentoring and coaching development practitioners in Tanzania, Mozambique, Sudan, Vietnam and the West Africa region.

Practical development project experience: strategic planning, programme development and proposal writing, policy analysis, budget monitoring, HIV and AIDS analysis and gender analysis.

Relevant recent publications

Aikman, S., 2011, ‘Education and indigenous justice in Africa’. *International Journal of Educational Development* Special Issue on Quality Education 31 (1) pp.15-22 [Link to journal article](#)

Aikman, S., 2010, ‘Marching to different rhythms: International NGO collaboration with the state in Tanzania’ *Development in Practice*. 20:4/5 [Link to journal article](#)

Aikman, S., 2010, ‘Grasping rare moments for change: children’s participation in conflict contexts’ In Cox, Dyer, Robinson-Pant and Schweisfurth (eds) *Children as Decision Makers in Education*, Continuum: London. [Link to document](#)

Aikman, S., 2009, 'The contradictory Languages of Fishing and Gold Panning in the Peruvian Amazon' *Maritime Studies (MAST)* Special Issue on Literacy and Fishing. 8 (2) pp. 50-71 [Link to journal article](#) [Link to document](#)

Aikman, S., Unterhalter, E and Boler, T (Eds), 2008, *HIV and AIDS and Gender: Challenges for Education*, Oxfam: Oxford.

Aikman, S., Unterhalter, E. (Eds), 2007, *Practising Gender Equality in Education*. Oxfam:Oxford.

2005 *Beyond Access: Transforming Policy and Practice for Gender Equality in Education*, edited with Elaine Unterhalter. Oxfam:Oxford.

Research Monograph:

Aikman, S. 1999 Intercultural Education and Literacy – an Ethnographic Study of Arakmbut Education, Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Aikman, S. 2003 La Educacion indigena en Sudamerica: interculturalidad y bilinguismo en Madre de Dios, Peru. Lima: Instituto de Estudios Peruanos.

Languages: English (mother tongue), Spanish, Danish, Harakmbut (with some French, Portuguese).