

CV Peter Zihlmann

Personal

Present Position: Executive Director ebaix
Education: Lic. phil. I, Social Anthropology, University of Zurich
Date of birth: Mai 08, 1961
Languages: German, Spanish, English, French

Core competencies

- Strong operational and management experience in humanitarian aid and in connection to long-term development (nexus).
 - Management of numerous staff members at HQ and abroad with extensive budget responsibility
 - Participation in international networks as well as project commissions for coordination issues and financial allocations
- Extensive experience as a trainer and consultant for organisations and as a lecturer at various universities
 - Organisation and monitoring of a long-term cross-organisational learning process in Switzerland
 - Conception and development of learning paths and a CAS at the University of Bern
 - Availability of extensive film material for training purposes

Working Experience Abroad

Afghanistan, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Cameroon, Croatia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ingushetia, Iraq, Japan, Kabardino-Balkaria, Kenia, Kosovo, Mexico, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, North Korea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda

Employment History

2013 – on-going: **Executive Director of the non-profit organisation ebaix (www.ebaix.ch)**

Accompanying learning processes, implementation of trainings, evaluations of programmes and consulting for organisations in humanitarian aid and in connection with the long-term development cooperation

- January 2021 – ongoing: Lecturer of the training course "Starter Package in Humanitarian Aid" of the academy for humanitarian action (aha) at the University Bochum
- August 2020 – ongoing: Evaluation of the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit (SHA) in cooperation with KEK-Consulting
- July 2020 – Sept. 2020: Consulting mandate for Traditons pour Demain
- February 2020 – April 2020: consulting mandate for Green Cross Switzerland
- 2016, September – February 2020: conception and development of a training course (CAS) in humanitarian aid at the University of Bern, with the active participation of more than 20 INGOs from Switzerland, Germany, Austria and Luxembourg

- 2018, April – July: study about Grassroots Organizations for Swiss Solidarity, combined with an evaluation in Lesbos in June 2018
- 2017, November – 2018, February: development of a curriculum for the Humanitarian Aid learning path (HALP), for Caritas Europa
- 2015, December: end of project evaluation of the reconstruction assistance from Caritas Switzerland after the floods in Bosnia in May 2014
- 2015, July – 2017, September: consulting mandates for Mission 21 concerning their emergency measures in Nigeria. Training in humanitarian aid and facilitation of workshops in strategic matters
- 2013, March – 2015, December: organization and accompaniment a cross-organizational learning process of Swiss organizations based on various country case studies with a long-term perspective:
 - October 2015: Case Study of reconstruction programs and livelihood projects in Sri Lanka executed 2005 -2013 by Caritas
 - October 2014: Case Study of reconstruction programs and family garden projects in Nicaragua and Honduras executed 1998-2006 by Caritas, Heks, and Red Cross, with participation of Swiss Solidarity and Swiss Development Cooperation
 - February 2014: Case Study of reconstruction programs in Indonesia, Padang and Yogyakarta executed 2005-2010 by Caritas, Medair, Red Cross and Solidar with participation of Swiss Solidarity
 - June and September 2013: Case Study of reconstruction programs in Bosnia and Kosovo executed 1995-2006 by Caritas, Medair, Red Cross and Solidar, with participation of Swiss Solidarity

1997-2014 **Head of the department Humanitarian Aid** of the sector International Cooperation, **Caritas Switzerland** (www.caritas.ch); focus on rebuilding aid following major catastrophes

- Administration of up to 11 employees at head office and 30 international delegates as well as 250 employees in various countries. Responsible for a yearly budget of up to CHF 31 million
- Organisation and execution of project activities in Bosnia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Kosovo, Mozambique, Afghanistan, Northern Iraq, Serbia and Montenegro, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Pakistan, Myanmar, Haiti, Japan and the Philippines, combined with conducting negotiations with local partners and political decision-makers
- Member of Caritas Internationalis' Balkan Steering-Group for aid in former Yugoslavia (2000-2004), as well as Caritas Europa's Humanitarian Aid Commission (2002-2009) and Caritas Internationalis' Humanitarian Advisory Council (2008-2013)
- Caritas Representative as member of the foundation board of CINFO (2007-2012) and in the project committee COPRO-INT from Swiss Solidarity (2008-2013)

1992-1997 **Head of the department Projects/Programs** of **Caritas Switzerland's** division for emergency relief

- Administration and recruiting of up to 5 employees at head office and seven delegates in project countries. Responsible for a yearly budget of up to CHF 20 million
- Organisation and execution of emergency aid and rebuilding programs in Croatia, Bosnia, Northern Iraq and Rwanda, as well as in Chechnya and Ingushetia under the general management of Caritas Internationalis
- Exploratory trips to Tajikistan and North Korea

1991-1992 **Program coordinator of Northern Iraq for Caritas Switzerland**

- Organisation and execution of an operative pioneering program in Northern Iraq with an overall budget of CHF 48 million (up to 1994); reconstruction of more than 14'000 houses in 300 villages, agricultural rehabilitation, water projects, reconstruction of village infrastructure, schools, roads and bridges
- Administration and recruiting of two employees at head office and up to five delegates on site
- Responsible for fundraising and reporting to 17 financially contributing organisations and government bodies
- Organisation of and participation in international meetings
- Conducting negotiations with local partners and political decision-makers

Ancillary Professional Activities

- 2010 **Teaching assignment at the „Center for Evaluation (CEval)“ at Saarbrücken University, Germany**, on the subject of „Evaluation practice at Caritas Switzerland“; block course winter term 2009/2010 with 14 participants
- 2008 **Teaching assignment at the „Institute for Social Anthropology“ at Berne University, Switzerland**, on the subject of “Globalisation of humanitarian aid: logics of action by international NGO- and Government networks and their influence on tangible aid projects and affected societies“; proseminar spring term with 35 participants
- 2007 **Teaching assignment at the philosophical Faculty of Passau University, Germany**, on the subject of „Practice of Humanitarian Aid: New Actors, the globalisation of NGO networks and the decentralisation of donor states “; two-part block event spring term with 35 participants
- 2006 **Teaching assignment at the sociological Faculty of Bielefeld University, Germany**, on the subject of „Practice of Humanitarian Aid: the globalisation of NGO networks and the decentralisation of donor states“; two-part block event spring term with 30 participants
- 2004-2005 Double term **teaching assignment at the ethnological Seminar of Zurich University, Switzerland**, on the subject of: „Humanitarian aid in conjunction with long-term relief cooperation, globalisation of NGO networks and deconcentration of donor states “, on the basis of five case studies; 70 participants in the proseminar and 32 participants in the seminar
- 1994-2011 **Trainer in humanitarian aid on behalf of Caritas Internationalis, Caritas Europe and German Caritas** in Africa (Cameroon, Egypt), Latin America (Mexico) and Europe (London, Freiburg i.Br., Prague, Brussels, St. Petersburg)

Education and Professional Development

- 1994-2012 **Further Education and external Consultations**
- Management Training (F. Oesch, dipl. Ing. ETH)
 - Project Management (BWI/ETH)
 - Representation (University of Applied Sciences, Lucerne)
 - Media Training (R. Jeanneret, Swiss Solidarity; E. v. Kauffungen, SDC)
 - Presentation and Meeting Procedures
 - Conflict Management, Team Building and Organisational Development (Piazza Business Consultancy, Lucerne; Inmedio, Frankfurt)
- 2001-2003 **Master of Business Administration MBA, St. Gallen University, Switzerland**
Major in General Management
- 1983-1991 **Lic. Phil. I in Social Anthropology, Zurich University, Switzerland**
- Majoring in developmental, political and rural ethnology
 - Licentiate thesis: „El Municipio de Orica: economic and socio-political factors in the life of inhabitants of a rural community in Central Honduras “, 1990
 - Field research in Honduras on the subject of rural development (Swiss Development Cooperation Project „Postcosecha“) from October 1985 to October 1986
- 1973-1980 **Gymnasium in Lucerne, Switzerland with A-Levels in Science (Matura Typus C)**

Recent publications

Wiederaufbauprojekte in der Langzeitbeobachtung (reconstruction programs from a long-term perspective), Ein organisationsübergreifender Lernprozess auf Initiative der Caritas Schweiz in: Wirkungsorientierung in der Humanitären Hilfe, Deutscher Caritasverband e.V., July, 2016

Lucerne/January 2021