

CURRICULUM VITAE: DR. JUHA ILARI UITTO

Contact information

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Education

PhD, Social and Economic Geography, Lund University, Sweden, 1989
MSc, Geography (Development Studies), University of Helsinki, Finland, 1982
BSc, Geography, University of Helsinki, Finland, 1981

Employment history

June 2024- Independent Environment and Development Advisor

Specific assignments:

- Chair, Evaluation Advisory Panel, Independent Office of Evaluation, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), June 2024-2025
- Subject Matter Expert for a systematic scoping of the evidence base on the Planet Pillar of the SDGs (UNDP Independent Evaluation Office, UNEP Evaluation Office & Green Climate Fund Independent Evaluation Unit), June-October 2024

April 2024- Visiting Scholar, Environmental Law Institute

Conducting research related to environment and sustainability transitions related to small island developing states, climate-induced migration, institutional and policy matters, and evaluation. Contributing to policy papers, events and dissemination related to the above.

Sep 2014-Mar 2024 Director, Independent Evaluation Office (IEO), Global Environment Facility (GEF), The World Bank

As Director of the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO), reports directly to the GEF Council and provides leadership to ensure delivery of IEO work program, budget, and human resources within the Council approved framework. Represents the IEO in intergovernmental, international, and professional meetings providing leadership in environmental evaluation and how evaluation contributes to accountability and learning in international environmental cooperation.

Ensures quality and timely delivery of the IEO evaluation work program to deepen evidence of GEF results, impact, and effectiveness. Ensures that IEO will continue to lead on evaluation approaches and methodologies across the international evaluation community. Provided leadership to the Sixth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF presented to the GEF Council and 7th Replenishment Group in 2017 and the Seventh Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF completed for the 8th Replenishment at the end of

2021. The Comprehensive Evaluations provide key inputs to the Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund by providing evaluative evidence for learning and accountability.

Ensures that evaluation policies and procedures are established and updated to reflect emerging GEF priorities, institutional structures, and partnerships. Ensures that IEO evaluations contribute to institutional learning through strengthened knowledge management and dissemination and partnerships. Enhances relations, collaboration and synergy with the GEF partners and collaborators, including Multilateral Conventions on Biodiversity, Climate Change, Desertification, and Chemicals, international and civil society organizations, and the academic community.

Other service:

- Co-coordinator of United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Working Group on Integrating Environmental and Social Impact into Evaluation, 2019-2024
- Member, Footprint Evaluation Thought Partners Panel, Global Evaluation Initiative, 2020-2023
- Member, Advisory Board, International Program on Development Evaluation Training (IPDET), 2020-
- External reviewer, Thematic Evaluation: ADB Support to Action for Climate Change, Independent Evaluation Department, Asian Development Bank, 2020-2021
- Advisor, Global Partnership on Education (GPE), The World Bank, Results Framework Review Panel, 2021
- External review, IEU Learning Paper on Assessing the Likelihood of Transformational Change at the Green Climate Fund, GCF Independent Evaluation Unit, 2021
- Chair of organizing committee of the Second International Conference on Evaluating Climate Change and Development (Washington, DC, November 2014), Third International Conference on Evaluating Environment and Development (Prague, Czech Republic, October 2019), and Fourth Conference on Evaluating Environment and Development (Washington, DC, March 2024)
- Independent Performance Review of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) – Member of Advisory Group, GCF Independent Evaluation Unit, 2019
- International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS) – member of working group on Transformative Change, 2019
- Evaluation of Disaster Management Strategy and Operation Guidelines – Member of Advisory Group to the Caribbean Development Bank, 2018
- The Gender, Ecology, Marginalization and Systemic Evaluation (GEMSE) Framework for Evaluation Practice – Member of Advisory Group to UN Women, 2016-17
- Effectiveness of Adaptation Measures on Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change and Climate Variability: A scoping review – Member of Advisory Group to CATIE, 2015
- Representing the IEO in the Evaluation Cooperation Group (ECG) of the International Financial Institutions, 2014-

Aug 2009–Aug 2014 Deputy Director, Independent Evaluation Office, UNDP

Supported the Director of Evaluation Office in providing intellectual and organizational leadership and strategic guidance to UNDP's evaluation function and the implementation of the UNDP evaluation policy. Developed the annual work program for the office which encompasses all streams of work including approximately 12 evaluations annually,

corporate support and evaluation knowledge management. Responsible for fostering an environment of methodological rigor and professional empowerment of the Evaluation Office team to live up to the high standards expected by the stakeholders.

Exercised management oversight in the implementation of the substantive overall program of work of the office. Directly supervised senior evaluation and operations staff. Provided direct inputs to policy and methodological positions of the office. Responsible for assuring quality and substantive guidance to evaluations, and management of issues relating to policy, political sensitivity, credibility and use of evaluations.

Responsible for oversight and accountability of core resources at USD 8 million per year and extra-budgetary funds mobilized from donors. Oversaw the human resources of the office, including 23 full-time staff and a large number of short-term consultants and researchers. Provided strategic support and inputs to the Director in enhancing partnerships within and outside the UN system. Managed partnerships with key bilateral donors, OECD/DAC Development Evaluation Network, ECG, and regional evaluation associations. Mobilized significant funding (>USD 1 million) for Evaluation Office operations.

Manager and core team member of the following evaluations made available to the UNDP Executive Board and member states for accountability and policy and program improvement:

- Impact Evaluation of GEF/UNDP Support to Protected Areas and Surrounding Landscapes (joint evaluation with GEF Independent Evaluation Office) (associate evaluation manager), 2013-2014
- Evaluation of the UNDP Strategic Plan (evaluation design and member of core team), 2012-2013
- Assessment of Development Results in India: Country-level Evaluation (evaluation manager), 2011-2012
- Contribution of UNDP to Environmental Management for Poverty Reduction: The Poverty-Environment Nexus (evaluation design and manager), 2009-2010
- Assessment of Development Results in China: Country-level Evaluation (evaluation manager), 2009-2010

Other specific duties and achievements:

- Member of Steering Committee, Evaluation of the GEF Small Grants Program (joint evaluation with GEF Evaluation Office), 2013-2015
- Advisor to the Real-time Evaluation of Norwegian International Climate and Forests Initiative, 2010-2014
- Advisor to the UNEP Review of the Arrangements adopted Pursuant to the “Synergies Decisions” on Cooperation and Coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, 2012
- Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), 2009-2012; 2014.
- Co-chair of NONIE 2012 (Network of Networks on Impact Evaluation) meeting, Rome, Italy, April 2012 (250 participants)
- Leadership in the International Conferences on National Evaluation Capacity (Morocco 2009, South Africa 2011, Brazil 2013)

- External Expert Reviewer to UNEP report and guidance note, Greening the Blue Helmets: Environment, Natural Resources and UN Peacekeeping Operations, 2012

Jan 2006–Jul 2009 Evaluation Advisor & Team Leader, Program Evaluation, Evaluation Office, UNDP

Co-led the Program Evaluation Team, with responsibility for evaluation of UNDP's country and regional programs, especially in Asia and the Pacific, Arab States, and Europe and CIS. Planned and managed the program evaluation agenda and maintained communications with UNDP Regional Bureaux. Member of Evaluation Office management team. Supervised task managers, consulting teams and support staff working on programmatic evaluations.

From September 2008 to June 2009, acted as Evaluation Advisor for GEF-funded programs. Member of Quality Assurance Peer Group to the Fourth Study of GEF's Overall Performance.

Active participant in UNEG: member of the Country-Level Evaluation Task Force (2006-2009; elected co-chair in 2008); Evaluation Practice Exchange Task Force (2007-2008); and Impact Evaluation Task Force (2009).

Manager of following evaluations made available to the UNDP Executive Board:

- Evaluation of UNDP Work with Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund Resources, 2009
- Evaluation of the Regional Cooperation Framework for Arab States, 2008-09 – Undertook case studies in Egypt and UAE
- Evaluation of the Role and Contribution of UNDP in Environment and Energy, 2007-2008 – Undertook case studies in China, Kenya, Malawi and Thailand; For effective dissemination, organized workshops on Environment and Sustainable Development: The Role of Multilateral Institutions jointly with World Bank Group/IEG in New York, and with Norad, World Bank/IEG and UNEP in Oslo.
- Evaluation of the Regional Cooperation Framework for Asia and the Pacific, 2007 – Undertook case studies in Laos, Sri Lanka and Thailand
- Joint Evaluation of GEF Activity Cycle and Modalities, 2006-2007 – Member of core evaluation group of the joint evaluation by GEF, UNDP, World Bank, ADB and UNIDO
- Assessment of Development Results in Lao PDR: Country-level Evaluation, 2006 – Task manager and team member in charge of evaluating the Environment and Energy program

Apr 2002–Dec 2005 Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, UNDP/GEF

Managed and participated in M&E of GEF-funded operations requiring complex interagency arrangements amongst the GEF partners. Coordinated UNDP's inputs into GEF corporate evaluations, including the Third Study of GEF's Overall Performance.

In charge of developing tools and methods in support of M&E of GEF-funded operations, including indicators for crosscutting strategic priorities such as capacity development and adaptation to climate change. Developed a comprehensive web-based M&E resource kit to support GEF-funded operations in the regional units and country offices.

Developed and managed UNDP/GEF M&E Lessons Learned publication series. Was in charge of UNDP/GEF knowledge management products.

Major evaluations:

- Evaluation of the Role of Local Benefits in Global Environmental Programs, 2004-05 – Member of core team of joint evaluation by GEF, UNDP and World Bank; undertook case study of UNDP/GEF Optimizing Development of Small Hydel Resources in Hilly Regions of India project
- Specially-Managed Project Review of UNEP/GEF Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand project, 2004 – Member of evaluation team; undertook field visits to sub-projects in Thailand and Indonesia
- China Energy & Environment Outcome Evaluation, 2003 – Advisor (development of approach and methods; participated in evaluation mission)
- Midterm Evaluation of GEF-funded South Pacific International Waters Program covering 13 countries, 2003 (evaluation manager and member of Samoa case study)

Apr 1999–Apr 2002 Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, GEF, The World Bank

Coordinated the GEF-wide annual Project Implementation Review process, involving the three implementing agencies (UNDP, UNEP and World Bank), and drafted the document for presentation to the Council.

Led the development of methodologies adopted by the GEF family for monitoring and evaluation of specific interventions, notably: (i) incorporating capacity development into project design and evaluation; and (ii) programmatic indicators for the international waters focal area. In charge of the GEF M&E knowledge management and publications, including lessons learnt notes and other reports.

Planned, managed and participated as team member in three GEF-wide interagency evaluations whose findings were communicated to the GEF Council and influenced policy-making and strategies in GEF:

- Medium-sized Projects Evaluation, 2001-2002 – Evaluated implementation of MSP modality in GEF; undertook case studies in Guatemala and Peru
- International Waters Program Study, 2001-2002 – Assessed three approaches to environmental management of transboundary waters; undertook case studies of two projects in Brazil
- Multicountry Project Arrangements, 1999-2000 – Analyzed multicountry arrangements to address transboundary environmental problems; participated in case study on Lake Victoria (Kenya, Tanzania)

Sep 1990–Apr 1999 Senior Academic Program Officer (1997-1999); Academic Program Officer (1990-1997), United Nations University (UNU)

Developed and managed UNU's environment and sustainable development research, training and capacity building program with increasing levels of responsibility. During my

tenure the program expanded considerably with significant external funding from multilateral sources, bilateral donors and the private sector.

Initiated and managed 'People, Land Management and Environmental Change' project operating through locally-based clusters in 12 countries in Asia (China, Papua New Guinea, Thailand), Africa (Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda) and Latin America and the Caribbean (Brazil, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru), in collaboration with universities in Australia, Japan, and UK. Raised USD 6.2 million for the project from GEF and UNFPA. The innovative project had policy impact both in the participating countries and the GEF, being the first GEF-funded biodiversity project in production landscapes, and was rated highly successful by an external evaluation commissioned by UNEP.

Developed and managed several research and training programs focusing on sustainable development, natural resources and environmental hazards involving collaboration with developing country organizations, universities and research institutes, and the UN system (including UNEP, UNESCO and FAO), including 'Water Resources Management and Governance,' 'Sustainable Development in Mountainous Regions' and 'Urban Social Vulnerability and Disaster Risk.'

Organized some twenty international conferences, workshops and symposia in the UNU Centre in Tokyo as well as in several developing country partner organizations. UNU focal point on publications in environment and sustainable development. Developed a series for UNU Press on Water Resources Development and Management.

Apr 1989–Aug 1990 Consulting Manager, Rural Development, Finnconsult Oy

Part of the management team of Finnish development consulting firm, in charge of business development in the fields of rural development and population. Ensured contracts and undertook assignments for project appraisal in Nepal and Kenya (FINNIDA) and designing M&E system for a project in Zambia (IFAD). Home office coordinator of a large Finnish-funded agricultural cooperative development project in Western Province of Zambia with four full-time consultants in the field.

Designed, co-directed and taught courses on project design and evaluation for Finnish implementing agencies.

Jan 1988–Apr 1989 Research Fellow, Scandinavian Institute of African Studies (now Nordic Africa Institute)

Carried out research on population and urban development in Kenya (doctoral dissertation and beyond). Supervised scholarship holders. Served on the editorial board of the Institute's journal. Undertook consulting assignments for project appraisal in Kenya and Zambia (FINNIDA) and a final project evaluation in Zambia (Swedish Cooperative Center).

Nov 1984–Nov 1987 Associate Expert, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

As member of Monitoring and Evaluation Division, and later Technical Review Unit, participated in the technical review committee and methodological development to ensure that IFAD projects would utilize adequate and up-to-date M&E systems. Worked on developing participatory approaches to project M&E and development communication.

Managed the organization of Asia-Pacific regional workshop on M&E of irrigation projects with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila, Philippines (November 1985).

Participated in midterm reviews of IFAD-funded projects in Pakistan (with ADB) and Turkey (with the World Bank); project preparation and appraisal missions, with particular responsibility for M&E design in China (with the World Bank), Egypt (with FAO Investment Center) and Papua New Guinea (with ADB); and project supervision missions in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

Other professional and academic contributions

Visiting and advisory positions

- Member, Advisory Board for Evaluation of Norway's efforts on Climate and Environment in Development Cooperation, 2023-
- International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET) at Carleton University, Canada, workshop on Environmental Evaluation, June 2007, 2013-2015 (co-taught); now at the University of Bern, Switzerland, 2022-2023
- Rutgers – State University of New Jersey, Division of Global Affairs, Visiting Professor of Global Practice, 2013-2016 (coordinated and co-taught Graduate Course on Global Development Policy); Continued engagement as occasional guest lecturer at the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
- Shanghai International Program on Development Evaluation Training (SHIPDET): Led and co-taught a workshop on Evaluating at the Nexus of Development and Environment: Challenges and Opportunities, at the Asia-Pacific Finance and Development Institute, Shanghai, China, November 2019
- Suomikoulu Inc. – The Finnish School of Washington DC, Board Director and Secretary of the Board, 2019-2023
- Kennesaw State University, The Graduate College, Department of Political Science and International Affairs, Graduate Faculty, 2016-2018. Served on doctoral dissertation committee: 'Integrating Conflict Sensitivity into Conservation Practice: Evaluating a Framework's Design & Implementation'
- Kyoto University, Japan, Inter-Graduate School Program on Sustainable Development and Survivable Societies, International Advisor 2012-2014
- Kyoto University, Japan, Visiting Researcher, Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies, September-October 2005; November-December 2013
- External examiner of doctoral dissertation, Aalto University, Water & Development Research Group, Finland: 'Integrated Water Resources Management: Constraints and Opportunities with a Focus on the Ganges and Brahmaputra River Basins,' 2009
- University of Montana, Visiting Scholar in Residence, International Development Studies Program, 2016
- United Nations University, member of feasibility study to set up Research and Training Center on Environment and Human Security, in Bonn, Germany, 2000
- External examiner of doctoral dissertation, University of Helsinki, Department of Social Policy, Finland: 'Population and Development: A Comparative Study of Differences in Population Growth and Development in Kenya and Mauritius,' 1994
- Guest seminars and lectures in universities in USA (American University, Columbia University, Long Island University, New York University, Oregon State University, Rutgers – State University of New Jersey, University of Washington, University of Kentucky, Seton Hall University) and Japan (Hitotsubashi University, Iwate University,

Keio University, Nagoya University, Tokai University, University of Tsukuba, Institute of Global Environmental Strategies)

Service to professional and academic societies

- International Evaluation Academy (IEAc), Board Member, 2020-
- Environmental Peacebuilding Association – Co-chair, Interest Group on Monitoring and Evaluation 2018-
- American Association of Geographers (AAG) – Co-chair of local organizing committee for AAG Annual Meeting 2012 in New York (9,000 participants)
- American Geographical Society (AGS) – Councilor 2003-2009; Member of organizing committee of Geography 2050 Symposium, 2024
- International Water Resources Association (IWRA) – Board Member 2001-2003
- World Seismic Safety Initiative (WSSI) – Board Member 1996-1999

Publications (full list available upon request)

- More than 40 peer reviewed articles and book chapters in journals, such as *Applied Geography*, *Asia Pacific Journal of Evaluation*, *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, *Asian Journal of Environment and Disaster Management*, *Development Studies Review*, *Energy Policy*, *Environmental Hazards*, *Evaluation*, *Evaluation Matters*, *Geographical Review of Japan*, *Global Environmental Change*, *Global Policy*, *Higher Education*, *IDS Bulletin*, *International Journal of Geospatial and Environmental Research*, *Journal of Extreme Events*, *Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation*, *New Directions for Evaluation*, *Research in Geographic Education*, and *The Geographical Journal*
- Fourteen books (co-)authored and/or (co-)edited, including:
 - *Migrant Health and Resilience: Transnational Competence in Conflict and Climate Displacement Situations* (P.H. Koehn, P.B. Ngai, J.I. Uitto & D.M. Diakow; Routledge 2024)
 - *Transformational Change for People and the Planet: Evaluating Environment and Development* (J.I. Uitto & G. Batra, eds., Springer 2022)
 - *Environmental Evaluation and International Development Institutions: A Case Study of the Global Environment Facility* (G. Batra, J.I. Uitto & O. Feinstein, Routledge 2022)
 - *Evaluating Environment in International Development* 2nd Edition (J.I. Uitto, ed., Routledge 2021)
 - *Evaluating Climate Change Action for Sustainable Development* (J.I. Uitto, J. Puri & R.D. van den Berg, eds., Springer 2017)
 - *Universities and the Sustainable Development Future: Evaluating Higher Education Contributions to the 2030 Agenda* (P.H. Koehn & J.I. Uitto, Routledge 2017)
 - *Sustainable Development and Disaster Risk Reduction* (J.I. Uitto & R. Shaw, eds., Springer 2016)
 - *Enhancing Participation and Governance in Water Resources Management: Conventional Approaches and Information Technology* (L. Janský & J.I. Uitto, eds.; United Nations University Press 2006).

Peer reviews for academic journals and publishers

- Member of the Editorial Board of journal *Progress in Disaster Science* (Elsevier)

- Member of the Editorial Board of journal *Evaluation and Program Planning* (Elsevier)
- Member of International Editorial Board of journal *Environmental Hazards* (Taylor and Francis)
- Peer reviews for journals *Climatic Change*, *Contemporary South Asia*, *Disasters*, *Environmental Hazards*, *Environmental Development*, *Environments*, *European Journal of Development Research*, *Evaluation*, *Evaluation and Program Planning*, *Geographical Review of Japan*, *International Journal of Biodiversity and Conservation*, *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education*, *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, *Journal of Geography and Regional Planning*, *Natural Hazards*, *Ocean and Coastal Management*, *Political Geography*, *Progress in Disaster Science*, *Scientific African*, *Sustainability*, *Sustainability Science*, *Urban Science*, *Water International*, and *Water Resources Management*
- Peer reviews of book proposals and manuscripts for Oxford University Press, Routledge, Springer Verlag, The Royal Society, United Nations University Press, United States Institute of Peace

Scholarships and awards received

- European Evaluation Society – Award for a Significant Contribution to Evaluation Practice (2012)
- Scandinavian Institute of African Studies – Study Grant (1982), Travel Grant to Kenya for doctoral research (1984)
- Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography Vega Fund – Travel Grant to Kenya for doctoral research (1984)
- Finnish Cultural Foundation – Scholarship for graduate studies (1982).

Languages

English	-	Fluent
Finnish	-	Mother tongue
Swedish	-	Fluent
French	-	Read good; Understand good; Speak fair (continued studies)
Spanish	-	Read good; Understand good; Speak fair
Japanese	-	Read limited; Understand fair; Speak fair (continued studies)