

Partner

Professional profile

David is a Partner at Itad and leads Itad's work on monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) in fragile and conflict-affected environments. He has over twelve years of experience in supporting governments and multilateral agencies to make evidence-informed decisions about how to deliver the greatest impact in conflict and crisis settings.

David is experienced in designing, conducting and leading evaluations of programmes and strategies focusing on conflict prevention, peacebuilding, preventing violent extremism, humanitarian assistance and refugee protection. He is experienced in designing and delivering MEL systems for complex programmes, including developing theories of change, results frameworks and value for money frameworks.

David is currently MEL Director for a six-year contract providing MEL support to the UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) in Eastern Africa, where he has provided leadership and quality assurance across a range of reviews and evaluations including a thematic evaluation of regional support to conflict prevention and peacebuilding, delivered MEL training and mentoring support, and led Itad's innovative work around measuring political access and influence. He is also currently Project Director for a joint evaluation of the protection of the rights of refugees during the Covid-19 pandemic, led by UNHCR; Project Director for an evaluation of UNRWA's Medium Term Strategy; and Quality Assurance lead for evaluations of UNHCR's support for strengthening national asylum systems, and UNHCR's Repatriation Programmes and Activities.

Previously, David has been the MEL Director for a three-year MEL support contract to CSSF teams across North Africa, leading and overseeing portfolio and thematic evaluations, delivering MEL training, and facilitating learning sessions around measuring influencing and catalytic effect. He has also been Project Director for a wealth of evaluations including an award-winning evaluation of the coverage and quality of UNICEF's humanitarian response, which was awarded best UNICEF cross-cutting evaluation of 2020; an evaluation of Sida's global humanitarian partnerships; an evaluation of UNHCR's leadership of the Global Protection Cluster; a five-year evaluation of DFID's Humanitarian Innovation and Evidence Programme; an evaluation of Denmark's global humanitarian strategy; and an evaluation of Finland's global support to peace and development.

David is an experienced trainer and facilitator and is trained in the use of participative training techniques, working in hostile environments and evaluating humanitarian action. He is fluent in German and has a working knowledge of French.

Nationality British

Languages English (native), German (fluent), French (working proficiency)

Country experience Afghanistan (remote), Algeria, Ethiopia, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Nepal, Pakistan, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen (remote)

Education

2017 - 2008	MA Transnational Studies (Distinction) University of Southampton, UK
2002 - 2007	BA German Studies (1st Class) University of Warwick, UK

Employment

2020 - Present	Partner - FCAS Practice Itad, UK
2019 - 2020	Associate Partner - FCAS Practice Itad, UK
2016 - 2019	Principal Consultant, FCAS Practice Lead Itad, UK
2014 - 2016	Senior Consultant, FCAS Theme Lead Itad, UK
2011 - 2014	Business Development Manager and Consultant Itad, UK
2009 - 2011	Business Development Officer and Consultant Itad, UK

Project experience

2015 - Present	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning support to UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund in Eastern Africa Role: MEL Director Client: FCDO Location: Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda
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Responsible for leading a six-year contract providing MEL support to CSSF teams across Eastern Africa with the objective of generating evidence and insights into how the Fund is contributing to conflict, stability and security outcomes in the region. David is responsible for overseeing all MEL workstreams, including i) providing mentoring support to ensure programmes are aligned with strategy and informed by an understanding of context; ii) strengthening the quality of outcome data through third-party monitoring and developing monitoring tools that track progress and support adaptation; iii) conducting reviews and evaluations to provide evidence of contribution to strategic objectives; and iv) facilitating evidence-informed learning to improve programme and policy decisions. David has led/overseen the development of innovative approaches to measuring political access and influence (PAI), as well as an approach to assessing the effects of military training called TASER (Training Assessment System for Evaluation and Reporting).

2020 – Present **Thematic Evaluation of UK approaches to Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (CPPB) in East Africa**

Role: Evaluation Director | Client: FCDO | Location: Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan

Responsible for overseeing a two-stage, learning-focused evaluation assessing the relevance, effectiveness and sustainability of UK support to linking peacebuilding efforts at the local, sub-national and national level across four case studies, including generating insights and learning around how the UK is able to maximise its 'catalytic effect' in this space, as well as strengthen approaches to promoting gender and inclusion.

2021 – Present **Joint Evaluation of the Protection of the Rights of Refugees during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Role: Project Director | Client: UNHCR | Location: Case studies to be confirmed

Responsible for overseeing the design and delivery of a joint evaluation, led by UNHCR with MFA Finland and Governments of Colombia and Uganda, to evaluate the effectiveness of international cooperation in protecting the rights of refugees during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021 – Present **Evaluation of UNHCR's approach to asylum capacity development**

Role: Quality Assurance Lead | Client: UNHCR | Location: UK

Responsible for overseeing the quality of this global, learning-focused evaluation of the relevance, effectiveness and outcomes of UNHCR's capacity development efforts in strengthening national asylum systems, with the objective of guiding future UNHCR policy and practice.

2021 – Present **Strategic Evaluation of UNRWA's Medium Term Strategy (2016-22)**

Role: Evaluation Director | Client: UNRWA | Location: West Bank, Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon

Responsible for overseeing this evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of UNRWA's Medium Term Strategy and the processes related to its implementation, with the objective of supporting reflection and learning on the Agency's strategic and operational approach to implementing its strategy and informing the development of a successor strategy.

2021 – Present **Evaluation of UNHCR's repatriation programmes and activities**

Role: Quality Assurance Lead | Client: UNHCR | Location: UK

Responsible for overseeing the quality of this evaluation of UNHCR's global support to the repatriation of refugees, with the objective of providing evidence to guide and enhance UNHCR policy and practice.

2020 – Present **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning support to UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund in South Asia**

Role: Senior Adviser/Quality Assurance | Client: FCDO | Location: UK

Responsible for providing strategic advice and quality assurance to this two-year contract providing monitoring, evaluation and learning support to CSSF teams across South Asia.

2017 – Present **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning support to UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund in Middle East**

Role: Senior Adviser/Quality Assurance | Client: FCDO | Location: UK

Responsible for providing strategic advice and quality assurance to this 5-year contract providing monitoring, evaluation and learning support to CSSF teams across the Middle East.

2018 – 2021 **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning support to UK Conflict, Stability and Security Fund in North Africa**

Role: MEL Director | Client: FCO/DFID North Africa Joint Unit | Location: Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya

Responsible for leading a three-year contract providing MEL support to CSSF teams across North Africa. This involved leading/overseeing the design and delivery of portfolio, thematic and programme evaluations; providing training and mentoring support to CSSF teams on theories of change, indicator development, evidence gathering and analysis; supporting CSSF teams to develop evidence-informed stories of change that help to demonstrate the contribution of programmes to UK strategic objectives in the region; and facilitating learning sessions around measuring influencing and catalytic effect.

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- 2019 – 2021** **Evaluation of UNHCR country operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Egypt and Angola**
Role: Evaluation Director | Client: UNHCR | Location: UK/Switzerland
Responsible for overseeing the design and delivery of four learning-focused country operation evaluations with the purpose of generating timely evidence to inform UNHCR's future operational planning and strategy in each country.
- 2019 – 2020** **Evaluation of Sida's humanitarian partnerships**
Role: Evaluation Director | Client: Sida | Location: UK/Sweden
Responsible for overseeing this global evaluation of the performance of Sida's 16 humanitarian partners with case studies focusing on Afghanistan, South Sudan and Somalia.
- 2017 – 2019** **Evaluation of the coverage and quality of UNICEF's humanitarian response in complex humanitarian emergencies**
Role: Evaluation Director | Client: UNICEF | Location: UK, USA
Responsible for overseeing the design and delivery of this award-winning, major, global evaluation of UNICEF's performance in achieving coverage and quality in its humanitarian action. The evaluation was awarded best UNICEF cross-cutting evaluation of 2020 and was commended by UNICEF: "[it] helped UNICEF to tackle tough issues and take stock of the effectiveness of its response to crises in high-profile and high-threat environments...influenced UNICEF's Strategic Plan, its humanitarian programming and investments...and has been a catalyst in the revision of the Core Commitments for Children (CCCs) in humanitarian action."
- 2018 – 2019** **Training on M&E in conflict and stabilisation settings**
Role: Trainer/Facilitator | Client: UK Stabilisation Unit | Location: UK
David was engaged by the UK Stabilisation Unit to provide training and facilitation 3-4 times per year to CSSF and UK Government teams on M&E in conflict and stabilisation settings, including leading a session on measuring political access and influence.
- 2017** **Evaluation of BBC Media Action in North Africa**
Role: Team Leader | Client: FCO/DFID North Africa Joint Unit | Location: Libya, Tunisia and Algeria
Led a two-person team in a rapid evaluation of BBC Media Action interventions in North Africa, with a focus on assessing outcome progress and challenges, management and sustainability.
- 2014 – 2018** **Independent Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) of DFID Yemen Programme**
Role: Project Director and Strategic Advisor | Client: DFID | Location: UK
Provided advisory support to the monitoring team on design, reporting and lesson learning. Co-facilitated a TPM lessons workshop in April 2018 in Amman with UK Government, and other donors and implementers working in Yemen.
- 2016 – 2017** **Evaluation of UNHCR's Leadership of the Global Protection Cluster**
Role: Evaluation Director | Client: UNHCR | Location: Switzerland/UK
Responsible for overseeing evaluation design, data collection, analysis and report writing, including quality assuring all evaluation products.
- 2016 – 2017** **Monitoring and Evaluation of the Global Mine Action Programme**
Role: Evaluation Director | Client: DFID | Location: UK
Responsible for overseeing the design and delivery of the monitoring and evaluation strategies, including approach to refining and testing the programme theory of change, designing the evaluation framework, methodology and data collection tools, and working with GMAP implementers to strengthen monitoring of and reporting on results. Responsible for quality assuring all evaluation products including the inception report and formative evaluation report.
- 2013 – 2017** **Evaluation of DFID's Humanitarian Innovation and Evidence Programme (HIEP)**
Role: Core Team Member | Client: DFID | Location: UK / Pakistan
Team Leader for the evaluation of two case studies: an IFRC programme focusing on national and local capacity building for disaster risk management; and a GFDRR programme seeking to improve the application of risk modelling for disaster risk management. Work involved document and literature review, conducting interviews in Pakistan and authoring two case study reports. Also contributed to research and data analysis for case studies on delivering aid in insecure environments and DFID's Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF);

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co-delivered theory of change workshops with DFID during evaluation design phase; designed and conducted impact-oriented case studies to track when and how research findings have influenced policy makers; and used contribution analysis to systematically analyse the extent to which interventions have contributed to observed change, across different cases in different contexts.

2014 – 2015 **Evaluation of Strategy for Danish Humanitarian Action**

Role: Deputy Team Leader and Evaluation Director | Client: Danida | Location: Denmark, South Sudan, Afghanistan

Responsible for overseeing evaluation design and delivery; co-led a theory of change workshop with Danida and its implementers and a follow-up evidence workshop after the evaluation; conducted fieldwork in 3-4 field locations in South Sudan, including leading a field visit to Northern Bahr el Ghazal; and led the Afghanistan Desk Study. Also contributed to the context and portfolio analysis.

2014 – 2015 **Evaluation of DFID's Building Capacity for Use of Research Evidence Programme**

Role: Core Team Member | Client: DFID | Location: UK, Ghana

Responsible for leading case study evaluation of the Africa Cabinet Decision-Making Project, assessing its approach to improving the use of research evidence in African Cabinet decision making in Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Liberia.

2014 – 2015 **Evaluation of DFID's Humanitarian Response to Typhoon Haiyan**

Role: Evaluation Director | Client: DFID | Location: Philippines

Responsible for guiding the team on evaluation design and delivery; liaising with the Evaluation Steering Group; and quality assurance of all evaluation products.

2014 – 2015 **Evaluation of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH)**

Role: Evaluation Director | Client: Norad | Location: UK

Responsible for overseeing evaluation design and delivery, and quality assuring all evaluation products.

2013 – 2016 **Post-War Recovery Studies MSc Teaching at York - M&E in Fragile States: The Challenges of Measurement**

Role: Lecturer | Client: York University | Location: UK

Taught annual seminars for four years on the challenges of M&E in conflict and post-conflict settings.

2013 – 2014 **Evaluation of Peace and Development in Finland's Development Cooperation**

Role: Evaluation Director and Case Study Team Leader | Client: MFA | Location: Finland and Ethiopia

Responsible for overall evaluation management, and co-author of synthesis report. Also responsible for contributing to evaluation design, development of methodology and evaluation tools, and quality assurance of all reports. Team leader for the Ethiopia country case study.

2013 – 2014 **Evaluation of the Training for Peace Programme**

Role: Itad Project Director and Core Team Member | Client: Norad | Location: Rwanda, Kenya, Norway

Contributing author to the inception report and final evaluation report, with responsibility for designing and conducting an impact assessment of the programme's training component, with a focus on the training of police; conducted a data collection visit to Rwanda to hold interviews with the Rwanda National Police in Kigali; and contributed to an assessment of the cost effectiveness of the programme's training component.

2013 – 2014 **Evaluation of the EU Yemen Country Strategy**

Role: Core Team Member | Client: European Commission | Location: Desk-based

Led on contextual analysis, strategy review, and evaluation of efficiency of EU development cooperation funding instruments and aid modalities; contributed to the inception, desk and final evaluation reports.

2012 – 2014 **M&E Support to Trademark East Africa (TMEA) Rwanda**

Role: Core Team Member | Client: Trademark East Africa | Location: Rwanda

Provided continuous M&E support to TMEA Rwanda teams, including developing an M&E framework and performance indicators for the Ministry for East African Community (MINEAC) and Private Sector Federation (PSF); designing a baseline study for PSF; designing tools and approaches for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of advocacy and communication activities; and designing training modules on a range of M&E topics including indicator development, results-based monitoring and project cycle management.

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2011 – 2012

Evaluation of DFID's International Citizen Service (ICS)

Role: Core Team Member, Country Case Study Lead | Client: DFID | Location: UK, Nepal

Country case study lead for Nepal, including interviews and focus groups with implementers and participants to assess emerging impacts of the programme, and authoring the country case study report. Conducted interviews with ICS staff in London as well as focus groups with programme volunteers. Led the programme value for money (VFM) assessment. Led the literature review on youth participation in development and the impact of volunteering on personal development. Contributed to the mid-term and final evaluation report.

2009 – 2011

Multi-donor evaluation of Support to Conflict Prevention and Peace Building Activities in Southern Sudan

Role: Core Team Member | Client: Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Location: Southern Sudan

Core team member, responsible for providing desk-based research on the drivers of conflict and donor policy in South Sudan; conducting policy and portfolio analysis; conducting a two-week mission to Juba to set up and manage the evaluation team office, provide technical and research support to the field teams, conduct interviews, and manage logistics and security arrangements.