

Consultant

Professional profile

Bara Sladkova became a Consultant in Itad's Climate Change theme in 2017, after working in their Business Development Unit. Since then, she has worked on a number of projects across the Climate Change and Impact Investing portfolios. Bara has over 6 years' experience in the areas of sustainable development, climate resilience, carbon finance, forestry and impact investing gained through consulting, research, business development and project management for employers including Itad, the European Commission (EC), as well as Beijing-based consultancies and organisations in the non-governmental sector.

She is an experienced evaluator with proven knowledge and implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems and methodologies, primarily qualitative and mixed-methods approaches. For the past four years, she has been working in the area of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) and is currently managing a contract for the delivery of MEL services to the Global Resilience Partnership (GRP), a multi-donor initiative supported by USAID, Z Zurich Foundation, DFID and SIDA. She also provides technical inputs for the World Bank-funded Learning Partnership on the Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and DFID's Building Resilience and Adapting to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED).

Prior to joining Itad, Bara provided policy advice to major donors in the above-mentioned thematic areas, including to DFID on the role of infrastructure projects in poverty alleviation in India and sub-Saharan Africa. She started her career working for a Beijing-based consultancy specializing in carbon trade and has held roles with the EC where she coordinated the work of the EC and several development banks (WB, EBRD, EIB) on the draft of a co-financing mechanism for promoting energy efficiency in buildings.

Nationality Czech

Languages Czech (mother tongue), English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (basic), French (basic)

Country experience Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Rwanda, Tanzania, the United Kingdom, Vietnam

Education

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| 2012 - 2013 | MSc Environmental Policy and Regulation
London School of Economics and Political Science, UK |
| 2006 - 2009 | BA International Relations and Development Studies
University of Sussex, UK |

Employment

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| 2017 - Present | Consultant
Itad, UK |
| 2014 - 2017 | Business development
Itad, UK |
| 2013 - 2014 | Research Assistant
Engineers Against Poverty, UK |
| 2012 | Project Assistant
Kerlin Energy & Environmental Technology/QCA, UK |
| 2011 | Assistant to the Head and Deputy Head of Geographical Unit
DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, Bulgaria |

Project experience

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| 2019 - Present | Support for China Climate Change Portfolio Big Bet
Role: Researcher Client: MacArthur Foundation Location: China
The MacArthur Foundation's Big Bet to support China in its move to a cleaner economy will play a part in a national, philanthropic and multilateral drive away from the business as usual Success would send a powerful signal to India, the US, and other countries that action on climate change is desirable, feasible and has global leadership. Itad is developing the MERL approach together with MacArthur Foundation, Grassroots Solutions (consortium partner, and the Big Bet grantees for the Climate Change portfolio of grants. |
| 2018 - Present | Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Panel for MFAT
Role: Consultant Client: New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) Location: New Zealand |

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Barbora is working as MEL consultant for this Itad assignment. She is part of the team providing MFAT with monitoring, evaluation and learning services across the whole ministry and all its projects. The extension of this assignment makes necessary a range of evaluation types, methods and tools: strategic analysis, impact evaluation, etc.

- 2018 - Present** **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning support for the Global Resilience Partnership,**
Role: M&E Officer | Client: GRP | Location: UK, the Netherlands, Vietnam
Delivery of MEL support to GRP grantees via online MEL helpdesk and in-person MEL clinics; Coordination and hosting of interactive webinars; Coordination of MIS design and development; In-country collection of monitoring data; Coordination of Itad-led MEL support team; Project management and client /partner liaison
- 2017 - 2018** **Building Resilience and Adapting to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED)**
Role: Consultant & Evaluator | Client: DFID | Location: UK
Applied Realist Evaluation approach to Portfolio Synthesis; Co-developed a coding scheme for data analysis; Coded Final Evaluation reports produced by BRACED Implementing Partners; Analysed project-level data using ICMO configurations; Contributed to report writing.
- 2017 – 2018** **Learning Partnership on the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**
Role: Evaluative Researcher | Client: World Bank | Location: UK
Collected qualitative data using semi-structured interviews; Delivered data analysis and document review; Developed DGM's Institutional History (a narrative that records how DGM's arrangements and processes have evolved over time and how the mechanism enabled/contributed to IPLC's engagement in decision making about allocation of grants under the Forest Investment Programme) at the global level and country-level Institutional Histories for six of DGM pilot countries; Performed context mapping and co-delivered comparison of DGM to similar funding mechanism; Contributed to report writing.
- 2017 - 2018** **Impact Audit of Nesta Impact Investments Fund**
Role: Consultant | Client: Nesta Impact Investments | Location: UK
As part for a three-member core delivery team, conducted review and analysis of the investment portfolio, incl. investment due diligence documentation, investees reports and NII's reports to the Investment Committee, as well as Nesta's communications to the public and partners; Identified inconsistencies and areas of improvement, contributed to the final Impact Audit Report; Supported presentation of preliminary findings to the client in sense checking workshop.
- 2017** **Addressing Violence Against Women and Girls Through Sport**
Role: Consultant | Client: British Council | Location: UK
Using project monitoring tools, delivered a document review; Captured and coded evidence of changing attitudes and behaviours among young people
- 2016** **Portfolio Review and Design of a Theory of Change**
Role: Research Assistant | Client: Argidius Foundation | Location: UK
Delivered a desk-based mapping of over 40 grants as part of a portfolio review results of which informed re-design of the portfolio-level Theory of Change (ToC).
- 2016** **Her Majesty's Government (HMG's) Climate Change Compass / Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) from International Climate Fund (ICF)**
Role: Research Assistant | Client: DFID | Location: UK
Supported the evaluation team with summaries of ToCs of all programmes funded by the ICF that aimed to promote low-carbon development.
- 2014 - 2016** **Evaluation of Children's Investment Fund Foundation's (CIFF) Contribution to the 2015 International Climate Negotiations (Phase 1 and 2)**
Role: Research Assistant | Client: CIFF | Location: UK
Conducted two extensive portfolio reviews of climate policy investments (applying OECD DAC criteria) evaluation and performance assessment of CIFF's 2015 international climate negotiations initiative in the lead up to the Paris COP in November 2015 and beyond.

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- 2013** **Infrastructure Topic Guide 12: Maximising the Benefits to the Poor from Infrastructure Programmes Aimed at Increasing Growth**
Role: Research Assistant | Client: DFID | Location: UK
Researched and drafted two sections the benefits of infrastructure to the poor: (i) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure, and (ii) access to electricity; Assisted the lead authors with development of ToC and establishing assumptions; Helped to identify transmission links and potential risks to the poor; Put forward additional measures to ensure the poor benefit.
- 2012** **Clean Technology Transfer Between China and EU Member States,**
Role: Research Assistant | Client: Kerllin Energy & Environmental Technology | Location: China
Liaised with clients in the area of trade with clean technology between Europe and China; Advised clients on EU co-financing and national subsidy schemes related to energy efficiency, renewable energy and electric mobility
- 2011** **Co-financing mechanism for improving energy efficiency in residential housing in Bulgaria**
Role: Team Assistant | Client: DG REGIO | Location: Belgium/Bulgaria
Coordinated a concept of a co-financing mechanism between the EC and external parties (WB, EIB, EBRD) for promotion of energy efficiency measures in residential buildings in Bulgaria; Collected evidence and assessed effectiveness of existing financial instruments for promoting energy efficiency in residential housing.
- 2011** **Support to negotiations of the 2014 - 2020 Programming Period**
Role: Researcher | Client: DG REGIO | Location: Bulgaria
Drafted a "Country Profile", an outline of Bulgaria's progress in the absorption of EU funds, which became one of the DG's negotiation mandates for the 2014-2020 programming period; Collected primary qualitative data, analysed findings and put forward recommendations