

Consultant

Professional profile

Talar is a Consultant in the Inclusive Growth team at Itad, focusing on monitoring, evaluation and learning for Private Sector Development, Impact Investment and Sustainable Business. Currently, Talar is part of the management team of an evaluation of the British Council's 'Developing Inclusive and Creative Economies'. This programme seeks to promote sustainable and inclusive development by stimulating and strengthening the social and creative economy in Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Pakistan and South Africa. She has also worked on a number of other projects including the independent MEL unit for DFIDs SUED Kenya programme. Prior to working at Itad, Talar spent a number of years at the Urban Land Institute, an international urban development think tank, where she managed research and advisory services projects on themes including density, urban regeneration and the innovation economy.

Talar holds a master's degree in Disasters, Adaptation and Development from King's College London, where she explored how development can better integrate resilience to climate change and natural hazards

Nationality British

Languages English (native)

Country experience Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Turkey

Education

2016 - 2018 **MA Disasters, Adaptation and Development**
King's College London, UK

2008 - 2011 **BA English Literature**
Queen's University Belfast, UK

Employment

2019 - Present **Consultant**
Itad Ltd, UK

2019 **Research Analyst**
Itad Ltd, UK

2017 - 2018 **Independent Consultant**
UK

2014 - 2016 **Project Manager**
Urban Land Institute, UK

Project experience

2019 - Present **Evaluation of Developing Inclusive and Creative Economies (DICE)**

Role: Research Analyst | Client: British Council | Location: Multi-country

Launched in March 2018, DICE – a £7.5million programme – seeks to promote sustainable and inclusive development by stimulating and strengthening social and creative enterprise ecosystems. Every DICE activity is designed specifically to empower women and girls, foster youth employment and/or promote disabled people and other marginalised groups' inclusion and economic empowerment. This evaluation will answer key questions about DICE's achievements to allow the British Council to learn about the programme's effects, to support adaptive management, and to strengthen delivery in real time. Specifically, Talar has been involved in the design and implementation of the evaluation, as well as producing desk-based research, analysis and synthesis.

2019 **Sustainable Urban Economic Development (SUED)**

Role: Research Analyst | Client: DFID | Location: Kenya

SUED aims to support up to 10 fast-growing municipalities in Kenya to develop sustainable urban economic plans and attract investment for critical infrastructure and value chain projects. This support will help create the right conditions for these emerging urban areas to grow in a way that is both inclusive and sustainable, reducing rural-urban poverty. Itad has been appointed to deliver the monitoring, evaluation and learning component of SUED to support programme learning and adaptation. Specifically, Talar supported the inception phase with desk-based research, reviewing lessons from similar programmes, exploring the assumptions of the programme and informing the Theory of Change.

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2019

Savings Portfolio Learning Partner

Role: Research Analyst | **Client:** The Mastercard Foundation | **Location:** Multi-country

Supporting MasterCard Foundation and partners through increased alignment and effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation in the Foundation's savings sector portfolio programmes. Generation, synthesis, curation and dissemination of evidence and knowledge for a range of stakeholders. Specifically, Talar was a part of the team researching the relationship between financial inclusion and employment opportunities within the MasterCard Foundation's portfolio. Producing data analysis reports and case studies.