

Consultant

Professional profile

Elisa Sandri is a consultant with substantial experience in monitoring, evaluation and research in the humanitarian sector and international development, with particular expertise on migration, forced displacement and humanitarian assistance. She is a MEL and research expert, having designed and implemented evaluations using mixed methods, specialising in qualitative and participatory approaches. As an evaluator, she has worked with a range of clients like IOM, UNHCR, WFP, DFID and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Cross-cutting her work is a focus on the application of Ethics principles in evaluation, an area in which she has developed an extensive guidance, building on Itad's Ethics principles.

She has published peer-reviewed articles, conference papers and a book chapter based on her research on informal humanitarian aid for refugees in Northern France. Elisa has an MA with distinction in Anthropology of Development from the University of Sussex and a BA in Social Anthropology from SOAS.

Nationality Italian

Languages English (fluent), Italian (native), French, Spanish

Country experience Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, France, Italy, Kenya, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, UK, Vietnam

Education

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| 2015 - 2016 | MA Anthropology of Development and Social Transformation (Distinction)
University of Sussex |
| 2009 - 2012 | BA Social Anthropology
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London |

Employment

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| 2019 - Present | Consultant
Itad Ltd, UK |
| 2016 - 2019 | Independent Consultant
Various Clients, Global |
| 2016 | Research and Advocacy Assistant
Mekong Migration Network, Thailand |
| 2015 | Research Assistant
Norwegian Refugee Council, Desk-based |
| 2013 | Intern
Oxfam, UK |

Affiliations

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| 2020-2023 | Research Associate – University of Sussex |
| 2019 - Present | Peer reviewer – Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Third World Quarterly; International Migration; Journal of Humanitarian Affairs |
| 2018 - Present | Researcher (Pro-bono) – Refugee Rights Europe |
| 2015 - Present | Volunteer and Trustee – The Hummingbird Refugee Project |

Project experience

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| 2021 | Evaluation of UNHCR's Repatriation Programmes and Activities
Role: Project Manager and Evaluator Client: UNHCR Location: Global
Itad has been contracted to conduct an evaluation of UNHCR's repatriation programmes and activities to guide and enhance UNHCR's voluntary repatriation policies and practises. Activities performed include: providing technical support on methodology, data collection and analysis; ensuring the project it is delivered on time, on budget, and to the expected high quality. |
| 2021 - 2022 | Evaluation of UNHCR's Support for Strengthening National Asylum Systems
Role: Project Manager and Evaluator Client: UNHCR Location: Global
Itad has been commissioned by UNHCR to conduct an evaluation to assess the relevance, effectiveness and outcomes of UNHCR's capacity development efforts in strengthening national asylum systems globally. Activities performed include: interviews with UNHCR HQ, Regional and Country Offices; leading writing for case studies and summary reports; project management. |
| 2020-2022 | Impact Evaluation of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa |

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Role: Deputy Project Manager and evaluator | Client: IOM | Location: Horn of Africa

Itad has been contracted to conduct the flagship evaluation of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in the Horn of Africa to assess the impact of reintegration activities with migrant returnees and to build M&E capacity of IOM. Activities performed included: remote data collection with IOM staff in HQ, Regional Office and Country Offices; analysis and synthesis of data; writing an approach paper on reintegration frameworks and metrics to measure reintegration; review of internal documents and data; design of literature review approach; design and implementation of qualitative component of the evaluation, particularly focusing on participatory approaches; liaising with national research partners; liaising with IOM on contractual and budget matters.

2020-2021

MEL Partner for CSSF Eastern Africa

Role: Various | Client: CSSF | Location: East Africa

Itad is providing strategic advice and support to CSSF Eastern Africa teams. Activities included: coordinating and facilitating learning events; conducting an extensive gender review of HMG activities in South Sudan.

2019 - 2020

Evaluation of the Agreement between the State and FMO

Role: Evaluator | Client: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (The Netherlands) | Location: Global

Itad was contracted to conduct an evaluation of FMO's policies, processes and practices to achieve development impact, additionality and mobilisation of private finance through its investments in developing countries. Activities performed included: contribution to the development of methodology; led case study of investments in Kenya; contributions to final report.

2017 - 2019

Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED and BRACED X)

Role: Evaluator | Client: DFID | Location: Global

Itad was contracted by DFID to work with a consortium of partners as the Knowledge Manager (KM) for DFID's Building Resilience and Adapting to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) Programme. Activities included: data collection in Ethiopia and Burkina Faso; writing of two stand-alone case studies; support with synthesis of implementing partners' reports; synthesis for relevant outcome indicators for the DFID Annual Review.

2019

Impact Evaluation of the Samarth-Nepal Market Development Programme

Role: Research Assistant | Client: DFID | Location: Nepal

Itad was contracted to deliver an independent ex-post evaluation of Samarth-NMDP. Activities included: coding large sets of interviews; analysis of data; production of a learning piece for the client.

2018

Moving through school to Higher Education

Role: Researcher | Client: University of Sussex | Location: UK

The research focused on the refugee students' experiences of arriving in, and moving through, the education system in the UK. Activities included: research design; data collection; writing of final report; policy brief; coordination of Advisory Group.

2017 - 2018

Refugee Integration Project

Role: Research Officer | Client: Sport England | Location: UK

Monitoring and evaluation of the Refugee Integration Project at the Brighton Table Tennis Club. Activities included: design of quantitative and qualitative data collection; data analysis; writing of mid-term and final reports; recruitment, training and management of researchers.

2017 - 2018

Evaluation Management Unit for West Africa Food Markets Pilot Programme

Role: Research Assistant | Client: DFID | Location: Desk-based

Activities included: Coding fieldwork notes for case studies, writing and editing case study reports for six case studies.

2017 - 2018

Strategic Evaluation of the World Food Programme's Support for Enhanced Resilience

Role: Research Assistant | Client: WFP | Location: Desk-based

Activities included: Desk reviews, organising and managing a document library, interview analysis.

2015

Education in Emergency

Role: Research Assistant | Client: Norwegian Refugee Council | Location: Desk-based

Evaluation of the Education in Emergency programme implemented by the Norwegian Refugee Council in Gambella (Ethiopia). Activities included: desk research; writing briefs and contributions to final report.

Selected publications

- Sandri, E. (2017) 'Volunteer Humanitarianism': Volunteers and Humanitarian Aid in the Jungle Refugee Camp of Calais, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. 44(1): 65-80
- Sandri, E. and Bugoni, F. (2018) "Makeshift Humanitarians", *Humanitarian Action and Ethics*. Smith, J. & Ahmad, J. (eds.). London: Zed Books
- Doidge, M. and Sandri, E., 'Friends that last a lifetime': The Importance of Emotions Amongst Volunteers Working with Refugees in Calais, *British Journal of Sociology* [published online],
- Morrice, L. and Sandri, E. (2018) Improving Education for Refugee Background Students, University of Sussex, SLN:COP Innovation Fund
- Doidge, M., Keech, M., Sandri, E. (2020) 'Active integration': sport clubs taking an active role in the integration of refugees. *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*. 12(2): 305-319
- Eager, R., Pinney, A., Loevinsohn, M., Sandri, E., Evans Gutierrez, L., Kindler, R., Williams, R., Barnett, C. (2020) *Methodological Report – Impact Evaluation of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa Region*. Itad, in association with Stats4SD, JaRco, Dansom and Sayara.