

Consultant

Professional profile

Since joining Itad in early 2019, Ruth has primarily worked across the Global Health Security portfolio, working on UK government evaluations examining the UK's work in this growing sector and in the context of other actors work in the sector. Her sectoral experience encompasses anti-microbial resistance, outbreaks and epidemics, health system strengthening; tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, disaster preparedness, child nutrition, health education, community health initiatives and overall health management.

Prior to joining Itad, Ruth has worked in both the health and education sectors in the UK and overseas. She worked for two years as an Education Coordinator at the British Council in London, before relocating to Belize where she coordinated various health and education projects, before moving to a managerial position at Ministry of Health in Belize. In this role, she was responsible for the strategic and operational management of all health services in the district. This included oversight of all of the Ministry's district programmes and committees, including maternal, child and adolescent health, epidemiological surveillance, child nutrition, vector control, health education, WASH, and clinical quality improvement initiatives. As part of this varied role she also facilitated internal and external monitoring and evaluation activities, including those conducted by WHO/PAHO, World Bank and US CDC.

Since returning to the UK in late 2017 and prior to joining Itad, Ruth worked in TB Alert's international programme department on health, poverty reduction and community education tuberculosis projects in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia.

Nationality British and Belizean

Languages English (Mother Tongue), Spanish (Basic)

Country experience Belize, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Jordan, Kenya, Laos, Malawi, Pakistan, South Korea, Zimbabwe

Education

2009-2011	MA, Health Promotion, Education and International Development Institute of Education, University College London
1998 - 2002	BSc (Hons), Astrophysics University of Edinburgh

Employment

2019 - Present	Consultant Itad Ltd., UK
2018 - 2019	Senior Programme Manager TB Alert, UK
2013 - 2017	Deputy Regional Health Manager Ministry of Health, Belize
2012 - 2013	Child Nutrition Programme Coordinator Ministry of Health, Belize
2010-2012	Education Coordinator EU Primary Teacher Training Project, University of Belize, Belize
2007 - 2010	Project Coordinator (Volunteer) Belize Council for the Visually Impaired, Belize
2007 - 2010	National Intervention Team Volunteer Belize Red Cross, Belize
2006-2007	Senior Project Officer Education, Science & Society team, British Council, UK
2004-2006	TESL English Teacher ST English Institute, South Korea
2002 - 2004	Report Writer Charles River Laboratories, UK

Project experience

2019 - Present	International Health Regulations Strengthening Project Third Party Monitoring and Evaluation Role: Project Manager and Workstream Lead Client: Public Health England Location: Multi-country
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Public Health England's IHR Strengthening Project aims to improve global health security by supporting and strengthening national and regional (supra-national) health protection systems. These systems enable public health threats to be detected, prevented and responded to, before they become potential cross-border emergencies reportable under the IHR. Itad is supporting the PHE IHR Strengthening Project to generate the intended outcomes and impact as the third-party monitoring and evaluation agent. We have categorised the Evaluation and Verification Questions into three segments, asking whether the IHR Programme is doing the right things, in the right way, to achieve the right results. We are adopting a utilisation-focused approach based on interrogating a refined theory of change, to explore the contribution of PHE's capacity building and coordination activities to outcomes within the context of national health protection systems.

Role: As Project Manager, Ruth is responsible for overall management of the evaluation, including financial management and oversight of all deliverables. As Workstream Lead on the "Right Way" workstream of the evaluation, Ruth is responsible for evaluating the programme implementation, and working with the client to co-create actionable recommendations under this workstream as they move towards the end of their current phase of funding.

2019- Present

UK-Public Health Rapid Support Team Performance Evaluation and Independent Monitoring Agent

Role: Project Manager and Workstream Lead | **Client:** Public Health England | **Location:** Multi-country

Itad is conducting a performance evaluation and providing ongoing independent monitoring to support programme delivery for the UK-PHRST. The purpose of this evaluation is to ensure that the UK-PHRST, who deploy to serious disease outbreaks in developing countries combined with conducting targeted research and capacity building activities, is having its intended impact. To do this, we are focusing on quality assurance and accountability and the facilitation of learning and adaptive management in order to improve programme decision-making and performance. Our role is to provide a critical and constructive review of programme delivery, recommend improvements, evaluate results and complement the UK-PHRST internal monitoring processes.

Role: As Project Manager, Ruth is responsible for overall management of the evaluation, including financial management and oversight of all deliverables. As Workstream Lead on the Strategy workstream of the evaluation, Ruth is responsible for evaluating the programme against its Theory of Change and working with the client to co-create actionable recommendations on how to build their strategy and approach as they move towards the end of their current phase of funding.

2019 - Present

Fleming Fund Independent Evaluation

Role: Evaluator | **Client:** Department of Health and Social Care | **Location:** Multi-country

The Department of Health and Social Care has launched the Fleming Fund, a £265 million One Health programme, to support low and middle income countries (LMICs) in tackling antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The aim of the Fleming Fund is to improve laboratory capacity and diagnosis as well as data and surveillance of AMR in LMICs through a one health approach: building capacity to collect drug resistance data; enabling the sharing of drug resistance data nationally, regionally and internationally; collating data on AMR; and encouraging the application of these data to promote the rational use of antimicrobials. Itad has been contracted to deliver an independent evaluation of the Fleming Fund country and regional level projects. **Role:** Evaluator - Ruth has co-led a number of case study visits including Bhutan, Laos and Kenya.

2020 - Present

Support to Theory of Change Workstream

Role: Evaluator/Theory of Change expert | **Client:** GAVI Alliance | **Location:** Multi-country

GAVI Alliance have contracted Itad to support them in the development of country level Theories of Change for countries who are undergoing full portfolio planning processes. As part of this work, Itad is facilitating interactive Theory of Change workshops with the agreed country offices, with built-in reflection workshops, and production of a final Theory of Change.

Role: Theory of Change workshop facilitator and evaluator. Ruth is part of Itad's facilitation team for the ToC workshops and related activities.

Selected publications

• 2020

Public Health England UK-PHRST Midpoint Evaluation Report: Midpoint evaluation report, providing a utilisation-focussed overview of the progress of the programme so far in contributing towards the longer-term outcomes within the UK government's overall Global Health Security programme. Providing recommendations for the programme moving forward, also looking towards future funding periods.

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2020

Public Health England IHR Strengthening Midterm Evaluation Report: Midpoint evaluation report, providing a utilisation-focussed overview of the progress of the programme so far in contributing towards the longer-term outcomes within the UK government's overall Global Health Security programme. Providing recommendations for the programme moving forward, including input into how to improve the project's monitoring and evaluation framework.