

Mai Skovgaard

Specialist, Gender

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Biography

Mai works as a Specialist, Gender focusing on gender-responsive programming and pedagogy as well as individual and organizational capacity building. Mai is currently managing the Global Platforms for Equitable Knowledge Ecosystems project which seeks to build stronger and more equitable knowledge ecosystems. She has experience working in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. Mai holds a master's degree in International Studies and has previously worked for international development NGOs in Denmark and Jordan focusing on building the capacities of young people to become full players in the development of their societies.

Languages: Danish (native speaker), English (excellent), Spanish (moderate/excellent), Arabic modern standard (basic)

Main country experience: Denmark, Jordan, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda, Nicaragua

Key skills and expertise

- Project and partnership management
- Gender-responsive programming and pedagogy
- Capacity building
- Facilitation

Specialist thematic areas

- Gender
- Higher Education
- Information Access
- Youth engagement

Posts held

Jan 2022 – current	Specialist, Gender, INASP (Oxford, UK)
Apr 2021 – Dec 2021	Programme Specialist, INASP (Oxford, UK)
Apr 2020 – Apr 2021	Programme Specialist (Acting), INASP (Oxford, UK)
Apr 2018 – Apr 2020	Programme Coordinator, INASP (Oxford, UK)
Feb 2015 – Mar 2018	Programme Officer, Information Access, INASP (Oxford, UK)
Apr 2013 – Dec 2014	International Project Coordinator, Crossing Borders (Humlebaek, Denmark)
Oct 2012 – Jan 2013	User Analyst, Youth Center Gellerup Toveshoej (Brabrand, Denmark)
Jan 2011 – Jul 2011	Programme Assistant, ActionAid Denmark Regional Office (Amman, Jordan)



Qualifications

Sep 2020	Project Management for Development Professionals (Project DPro), Humentum, Online Flex Workshop
May 2019	Gender Analysis and Planning, INTRAC, Oxford
2009 – 2012	MA in International Studies, University of Aarhus, Denmark
2005 – 2009	BA in Science of Religion and Globalisation and Development, University of Aarhus, Denmark

Project experience

Jan 2022 – present	<p>Global Platforms for Equitable Knowledge Ecosystems. (GPEKE), Ethiopia and Uganda. Project Manager. Funded by Sida.</p> <p>Key responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management including management of the project workplan and budget, reporting to and communicating with the funder, managing the project team and relationships with partners. • Management of the gender workstream working with partners in Ethiopia and Uganda to build strong and sustainable national gender alliances.
Apr 2018 – Jan 2022	<p>Transforming Employability for Social Change in East Africa (TESCEA), Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda. Project Manager (from May 2020, previously Project Coordinator). Funded by FCDO.</p> <p>Key responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management including management of the project workplan and budget, reporting to and communicating with the funder, managing the project team and partnership. • Management of the development of resources and outputs for project's 'Transforming Higher Education for Social Change' model - a rigorous methodology of pedagogy and curriculum redesign that supports lecturers to rethink their teaching and become facilitators of student-centred learning • Coordination and delivery of course redesign and gender responsive pedagogy aspects of the project, including co-design and -facilitation of a gender Training of Trainers and course redesign workshops.
Apr 2017 – Mar 2018	<p>Strengthening Research and Knowledge Systems (SRKS), Africa, Asia and Latin America. Programme Officer. Funded by DFID.</p> <p>Key responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination and delivery of organisational capacity building interventions for library consortia partners in Latin America. • Coordination of annual subscription process, including working with national library consortia partners and publishers. • Developing procedures and documentation for handing over of subscription responsibility to library consortia partners.



Jun 2014 – Jan 2015 Youth Organization in Three Rural Municipalities in Matagalpa, Nicaragua (Ungdomsorganisering i tre landkommuner i Matagalpa, Nicaragua). Volunteer (the project was entirely managed by volunteers). Funded by The Danish Foreign Ministry through the Civil Society Fund.

Key responsibilities:

- Designing and conducting a mid-term evaluation of the project with the Nicaraguan partner organisation

Feb 2014 – Dec 2014 From Overconsumption to Solidarity, Global. Project Coordinator. Funded by EuropeAid.

Key responsibilities:

- Coordination and financial reporting of the Danish part of the project.
- Establishment of collaboration with a local municipality in Denmark, including facilitation of interactive workshops in schools with a focus on global issues and inter-cultural understanding.

Jan 2011 – July 2011 Building Bridges for Youth Action, Jordan. Programme Assistant. Funded by The Danish Foreign Ministry through the Danish-Arab Partnership Programme.

Key responsibilities

- Coordination and day-to-day management of four initiatives within the overall programme, including collaboration with local partner organisations and young volunteers in Amman and Zarqa.
- Design and start-up of a gender initiative in collaboration with local colleagues.

