

## **Eduardo Garcia Rolland**

Humanitarian worker with 20+ years of experience. I worked as a manager in emergency and developmental, but also as a technical person in programmes around the world in ECD, Gender, Protection, Education, and WASH. I am a positive energetic resourceful and forward-thinking leader that empowers persons and creates environments conducive to conceive and try new ideas to improve the lives of children, women and communities.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### *Early Childhood Development and Education Specialist*, UNICEF-Jordan (November 2017-currently)

- Worked with Deputy Representative of Programmes to fundraise and pilot innovative programmes to extend preschool in the country: cash=transfer programme for the most vulnerable families in the country and models for private investment in ECD. The programmes made possible multisectorality and coordination (WASH, Child Protection, Education, Health, Youth, Social Policy) to enhance results for the youngest children in the country, refugees and nationals.
- Led on the creation of the UNICEF Jordan ECD Strategy, and set up a UNICEF ECD Task Force to support multisectorality for the youngest vulnerable children in Jordan.
- Formed and chaired the ECD Task Forces in the Syrian refugee camps and led ECD activities as humanitarian responses in Jordan.
- Managed a team within the Education Section of professionals and consultants in the areas of early education ECE, and teacher's development focusing on the transition from emergency to systems strengthening.
- Led the national strategy for pre-primary school universalisation, the review of the national normative framework and a national assessment on needs assessment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 4.2.
- Provided advisory services and technical support to the Education Section Chief and the Deputy Representative to address the ECE agency priority and the completion of the ECD Country Programme strategy and implementation, involving systems strengthening, and multisectorality and crosscutting provision of services (gender, environment, disabilities).
- Represented UNICEF in the Jordan national ECD Team to conceive the national work plan for ECD and represented the country office in ECD initiatives at national and regional level in coordination with Regional Office.

#### *Head Field Office*, UNICEF-Ciudad Juarez, Mexico (March-July 2021)

- Led on one of the biggest migration emergency in the world setting up a 34-people field office where I conceived and implemented a holistic response with actions and programmes, in coordination with Mexican and American authorities and United Nation and civil society partners.
- Managed successfully the formation of a new UNICEF from recruitment and training to setting up strategies and finalizing work plans for new sectors. The team included innovative support to systems-strengthening with secondments to main State administrations.

#### *Early Childhood Development in Emergencies Specialist*, UNICEF-New York (March 2016-November 2017)

- Provided technical support in the research of ECD Kits implementation programmes during the whole process including missions to South Sudan and Senegal.
- Led a ECD team of professionals, interns, and volunteers and led on initiatives with management responsibilities in HQ, such as task forces and coordination groups and mechanisms (Children with Disabilities, ECD in Emergencies, Parenting Support programmes, and ECD in Child Protection).
- Formed a pool of world experts on disabilities with academia around the world to link knowledge with programme implementation at country level in the most vulnerable places in the world.
- Managed multi-million multi-countries grants in coordination with regional and country offices with private and public donors such as LEGO Foundation, H&M Foundation, Hilton Foundation, etc. and collaborated with Partnerships, Advocacy and Fundraising.
- Created global tools and provided critical technical expertise to Regional and Country Offices to advance on early childhood development agendas particularly child protection programmes, parenting at scale and health and nutrition interventions.

Senior Child Protection Consultant, UNICEF-New York (July 2014-March 2016)

- Created the world reference tools and training for age assessment in UNICEF. The tools were implemented by me successfully and set up policies for the prevention of child recruitment in South Sudan, Myanmar, Afghanistan, DRC, and CAR.
- Worked towards stopping and preventing the recruitment and use of children for the “Children Not Soldiers” 2016 campaign to eradicate child soldiers through strategic planning and tool development; coordinated with different UN bodies as well as civil society (NGOs).
- Supported child protection in emergencies in field offices in areas such as family-based reintegration programmes, child soldiers/children associated with armed groups and armed forces releases; deployments in CAR, South Sudan, DRC, Myanmar, Colombia, Panama, etc.

Child Protection Technical Advisor, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), New York (June 2008-July 2014)

- Started the focused-ECD programming in IRC through the launch of pilot parenting programmes in several countries that constituted the seed to multimillion initiatives in the Middle East and Asia.
- Provided advice and training to IRC country programmes in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d’Ivoire, Colombia, Haiti, CAR, DRC, Burundi, Tanzania, and Middle East; created tools and helped on their implementation. The support remotely and in-person implied around 40 field missions with hands-on work with teams in the field all around the world.
- Secured funds from public and private donors for innovative research projects on parental skills in Liberia, fight against child labor in Sierra Leone, integrated programming for the prevention and response to early pregnancy in West Africa from 40,000 to 22 million dollars.
- Represented IRC in international fora and media raising visibility and technical legitimacy. Representation work included replacements in the field as head of teams, as well as intervention in radio, television, and public gathers to promote the agency and discuss issues and the humanitarian work.
- Transformed the agency policies and directions in protections grounded in evidence-based studies on resilience, developmental psychology and neurodevelopment. The innovative new approaches turned into a new way of understanding and implementing results-based protection with innovative parenting programmes (pilots and at-scale programmes) focused on Africa and the Middle East.

Protection and Advocacy Advisor, Norwegian Refugee Council, Burundi (May 2007-May 2008)

- Developed and implemented a Protection and Advocacy strategy for Education, Shelter, Camp Management and Legal programmes in cooperation with partners and authorities.
- Created Protection and Advocacy training modules and used them for internal capacity building and conducted emergency evaluations and assessments.

Child Protection Consultant, UNICEF, Sri Lanka (Dec 2006-May 2007)

- Led on the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 1612 for monitoring and reporting on children’s rights violations.

Human Rights Consultant, Human Rights Watch, Cote d’Ivoire (Sept-Oct 2005) and Sudan (June-July 2005)

- Conducted research on the political-military situation and human rights abuse patterns.
- Led on writing of major reports on violations and interviewed human rights activists, witnesses, survivors and victims, and interpreted the findings.

Programmes Country Coordinator, OXFAM, Chad (Dec 2004- June 2005)

- Represented OXFAM-Chad and managed multi-sector emergency programmes in refugee camps and host communities, supervising a 150 team and a finance department with 10-million-dollar annual budget.
- Designed OXFAM strategy for 2005-2006 to effectively respond to Sudanese Darfur refugee crisis and ensured programmes address gender, protection and HIV/AIDS mainstreaming.

Deputy Country Director, International Medical Corps (IMC), Sierra Leone (Jan 2003-Feb 2004)

- Managed 10-million-dollar country mission in emergency health care and nutrition leading on the transition strategy from emergency to development phase in post-conflict setting.
- Managed Administration and Human Resources (direct manager of 5 internationals), overseeing 200 staff and supported the establishment of IMC operations in Liberia

Field Coordinator, International Rescue Committee, Sierra Leone (Oct 2001-Jan 2003); Kosovo and Macedonia (June 2000-August 2001)

- Established and expanded emergency operations to include up to 200 nationals and 7 international staff in in Mitrovica, Gjilane, Skopje (Kosovo and Macedonia), and Bo, Kenema and Kono (Sierra Leone).
- Coordinated multi-sectoral programmes and coordinated emergency and development responses for Psychosocial, Gender and Youth departments.

Country Director, Movement for Peace, Serbia-Montenegro (Oct 1999-May 2000)

- Represented the agency as liaison with donors and local authorities and supervised staff of 35 nationals and 2 internationals implementing a 2-million-dollar annual budget.
- Set up new operations in Serbia and led in special humanitarian responses including evacuation of medical cases, emergency disaster and displacement responses.
- Designed cross-border strategy with a multi-sectoral approach and led on the implementation of emergency food and non-food distribution and medical evacuations for war victim children.

Manager Lobbying and Human Rights Programme, Jesuit Refugee Services, Great Lakes (Sept 1997-June 1999)

- Collected, analyzed and disseminated information on Human Rights violations.
- Managed programs in school rehabilitation and shelter construction for minority Batwa communities and supported war affected communities' self-reliance programs for women and displaced families

## **EDUCATION**

*Deusto University, Spain*, and *Ruhr Universitat, Germany*

1996-1997

Master in international Humanitarian Aid (NOHA) on Human Rights and Geopolitics

*Deusto University, Spain*

1989-1995

Law Degree

*Other courses in:* human rights, management, migrations, transitional justice, developmental psychology, parenting, migrations, teaching and training.

## **LANGUAGES:**

- Spanish, native.
- English, French and Portuguese, fluent.
- Arabic basic knowledge.