

Jindra Monique Čekan/ová, PhD.

Valuing Voices: Sustainable Solutions for Excellent Impact at Cekan Consulting LLC

Kolinska 5 Prague 3, Czech Republic and 475 22nd Ave N, St Petersburg, FL USA

Jindra@ValuingVoices.com @WhatWeValue C: +420-727-980-535 and +1-202-848-4783

EXPERTISE:

Political Economist. Jindra Čekan/ová, PhD. has used participatory methods for 30 years to learn from participants and policy makers, ranging from villagers and foreign aid implementers to ministers in Africa, Central/ Latin America and the Balkans. Their knowledge has shaped **funding proposals, technical reviews, project design, monitoring and evaluation, strategic planning and lately, Sustained and Emerging Impacts Evaluations. Sectorally she focuses on food security, livelihoods and gender.** Dr. Čekan/ová founded her consulting firm 16 years ago, serving global development clients in 28 countries, including government, foundations, non-profits and for-profits.

EDUCATION:

- **Ph.D. / M.A.L.D.** The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, 1994, 1990. Thesis: 'Listening to One's Clients' a Political Analysis of Mali's Famine Early Warning Systems"
- **University of Cambridge, Research Associate** (UK) and **Pew Charitable Trust Fellow** 1992-5
- **B.A.** Gettysburg College: Economics and Political Science, 1983
- **e-Certified Knowledge Professional** certificate from Knowledge Management Institute, 2011

REGIONS:

- **Africa:** *Anglophone:* Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. *Francophone:* Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal;
- **Latin America/ Caribbean:** Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Peru;
- **Europe:** Albania, Armenia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Kosovo, Macedonia, United Kingdom.

Languages: Bilingual English and Czech (FSI 5/5), proficient French (FSI 4S/3R), basic Spanish (FS1) Dual **Citizenship:** USA and Czech Republic (EU).

Post-Project Sustainability and Sustained and Emerging Impacts Evaluations

Valuing Voices at Cekan Consulting LLC Catalyst/ President 2013-present
Sustainable Solutions for Excellent Impacts. Research, Monitoring and Evaluations, Publications, Presentations in the US, Europe and Africa and various publications: <http://www.valuingvoices.com/>

USAID E3 Basic Education, Management Systems International Case Study Research Lead, Ex-post Evaluation (Uganda) 2016-17 (expected 4/18)

Designed, managed and implemented an evaluation of sustained outcomes of USAID-funded project in Uganda, leading four researchers and experts with Palladium, part of a four-country comparative study

Catholic Relief Services Team Lead, Ex-post Sustainability Evaluation (Zimbabwe) 2016

Led team of qualitative and quantitative evaluators to assess sustainability of an African project targeting 100,000 people. Evaluating sustained and emerging impact of agriculture and livelihoods.

Catholic Relief Services, Post-Project Evaluation Consultant: (Niger) 2015

Led a mixed-method [post-project evaluation, three-years post-project closeout of CRS Niger's Nutritional and Food Security Program \(PROSAN\)](#). Researched sustained outcomes, uptake by national partners and unexpected impacts among participants of this highly sustainable food security/ resilience project.

Federation of Red Cross/ Red Crescent, M&E and Sustainability Consultant (Ethiopia) 2014

Evaluated [Ethiopian Red Cross' Society \(ERCS\) food security project](#) in Tigray on credit, health knowledge, NRM by gender for impact and sustainability. Created self-sustainability processes with communities and ERCS.

Lutheran World Relief, Participatory Rural Appraisal M&E Consultant (Niger) 2006-10

Created, conducted community-based participatory M&E system assessment and evaluation for Gates Foundation-funded drought relief for 4,000 women's pastoralists. Published in [PLA Notes](#).

Global Strategic Planning, Design, Technical Assistance, M&E, Knowledge Management

CEKAN CONSULTING LLC *President/ Founder* (USA and Czech Republic) 2002-present
Founded consulting firm, creating and leading teams to serve global client technical assistance needs.

USAID PPL/LER (Policy, Planning, Learning Bureau, Office of Learning Evaluation and Research), *Organizational Learning Direct Consultant* (USA) 2012-2013
Supported Organizational Learning at USAID/ HQ and field. Designed and trained team in Appreciative Inquiry (AI) process doing 100+ qualitative interviews of USAID/ HQ staff technical and regional learning products and processes adapting AI to [Discovery, Design, Discussion, Dissemination and Determination](#).
Designed and did qualitative interviews with 22 Missions, wrote up M&E and Learning report on best practices on evaluation and performance monitoring platform contracts. [Discussion note](#). 2013

Global Giving *Consultant, Well-constructed Collaborative Evaluative Experiments* (USA) 2014
Created and led session for 30 staff based on surveys, interviews on research methods.

ITECS Innovative Consulting, *Project Design/ Evaluation Consultant* (East Africa) 2012-14
Consulted on project design/ proposal development, providing technical advice for Maternal Child Health linking, African NGOs, a large international for-profit medical device corporation and US donors.

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, *KM Strategic Planning Consultant* (USA) 2012
Reviewed current KM strategic plan, did interviews with senior HQ and international staff, analyzed findings and made a wide number of recommendations to become a great learning organization.

TOPS/ Food Security and Nutrition Network, *Knowledge Sharing Consultant* (USA) 2012
M&E survey and analysis, documenting knowledge for improved programming, learning and incentives by 11 global non-profits using USAID Title II funding. Co-presented findings at the World Bank.

InterMedia, *Health Policy Evaluative Researcher* (USA, Global) 2012
Interviewed 12 African, Asian and American senior experts and policy makers on international health policy for The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Wrote up key findings for report.

World Vision, *Food Security/ Livelihoods, Health & Hope Strategic Planning Consultant* 2011
Designed strategic planning processes and facilitated retreat for Livelihoods and Health & Hope teams.

OIC International Food Security, *Strategic Planning Consultant* (USA, W. Africa) 2010-11, 2013-14
Led strategic planning for OIC's African food security, agriculture/ livelihoods and vocational training portfolio Recommended revising materials and focus programming.
Won \$1million grant from WalMart for African retail vocational training with African Affiliates in 2014.

Johns Hopkins University *Knowledge for Health, Evaluation Consultant* (USA, Global) 2010
Led research team to improve eLearning practices for public health, analyze existing data from 35 international public health eLearning courses, survey a subset of 15,000 eLearning users. Developed a comprehensive strategy for evaluating eLearning, globally and for Africa.

InterMedia AudienceScapes, *M&E Consultant* (USA, Africa) 2010
M&E analysis for the Gates Foundation among high-level policy makers in Ghana, Kenya and Zambia. Integrated gender into questionnaire, analyzed data and wrote recommendations report.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation *Sanitation & Hygiene Advocacy, Researcher* (World) 2009
Created and led team to evaluate advocacy around sanitation and hygiene in 10 countries. Over 100 interviews of senior public, non-profit and industry experts to inform Foundation and partners' priorities. Recommendations including gender analysis. Presented to key Foundation HQ staff with Data Harvest.

World Vision, *SP&NK ICB Evaluation & Assessment, Consultant* (USA, Global) 2008
Evaluated impact of the training and work-plan process including staff's food security knowledge, including international cross fertilization and best practices from 10 global programs plus HQ staff.

FOOD SECURITY/ LIVELIHOODS (Program Design, NGO Capacity Building, Proposals)

The Mitchell Group, *Proposal Writing and Technical Manager Consultant* (USA) 2015-16
Wrote/ won proposal and technically managed \$400K Food Security Midterm Evaluation in Zimbabwe.

The Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, *Technical Consultant* (USA) 2011
Wrote about Feed the Future's measurement criteria and USAID's learning prospects for a white paper for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Women Thrive Worldwide, *Food Security/ Gender Policy Consultant* (World) 2011
Acting Director for Agriculture/ food security and gender policy advice. Provided feedback to the US government on gender monitoring and evaluation for food security. Wrote briefs, represented WTW.

Mercy Corps, *Agriculture/ Livelihoods Proposal Writer/ Technical Reviewer* (Africa) 2008,09
Reviewed and won two successful Food For Peace MYAP proposals with IMC for Uganda and Congo (>\$10 mil) and Land O'Lakes in Malawi. Built NGO staff capacity in agriculture and livelihoods.

Congressional Hunger Center, *Training Advisor* (USA, Global) 2007-2009
Training Advisor for Leland class of 2007-09, providing mentoring and led Leland International Hunger Fellow trainings on anti-hunger programming and policy.

Save the Children USA, *Consultant/ Principal Interviewer and Evaluator* (Africa) 2005-2006
Facilitated the Integration of Food Security and HIV/AIDS. Gave technical assistance in East and Southern Africa to integrate of food aid and HIV/AIDS, made knowledge sharing recommendations.

Geneva Global, *Grant Writer* (Ethiopia and Ivory Coast) 2006
Wrote two successful PEPFAR HIV/AIDS New Partner's Initiative grant proposals for capacity building and prevention/ care with US and African staff totaling \$12 million. Trained field staff.

Aga Khan Foundation, *Food Aid Consultant* (Mali, Tajikistan, Afghanistan) 2006-2008
Managed three USDA food aid monetization grants totaling \$30 million for milk and development programming in Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Mali. Oversaw monetization of 19,500 mt of milk for distribution to schools. Streamlined and improved project design and trained staff in project M&E.

Lutheran World Relief, *Participatory Rural Appraisal M&E Consultant* (Niger) 2006-08, 2010
Created, conducted community-based participatory M&E system assessment and evaluation for Gates Foundation-funded drought relief for 4,000 women's pastoralists on sheep restocking, wells, fodder and transhumance. Trained local staff in PRA process in French and wrote up RRA recommendations. Published article in [PLA Notes](#), reviewed technical documents, made donor recommendations.

North American Miller's Association (NAMA), *Food Aid Consultant* (Ethiopia, Kenya) 2006
Shaped food aid for HIV/AIDS through visiting 12 non-profit offices in East Africa with manufacturer's representative, arranged site visits on how to improve commodity management and food aid quality.

SUSTAIN, *Researcher/Consultant* (World) 2004-2006
Assessed the quality, expectations and preferences for food aid for those infected/affected by HIV/AIDS, plus malnourished mothers/children and refugees. Designed and analyzed survey from field programs in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Coordinated USAID/USDA, food industry and sci. experts.

American Red Cross, *International Services Head of Food Security Unit* (World) 1999-2003
Created food security strategy for AmCross within Technical Assistance, Planning and Evaluation section of International Development (agricultural recovery, health/nutrition, water/sanitation and safety nets). Created Red-Cross-wide tools/ systems for food security project design, proposals and commodity management, did training. Won over \$5 million in US Government grants (USAID, USDA). Seconded to Red Cross Federation/ ICRC in Kosovo 1999-2000.

Catholic Relief Services, *Head of Food Security Unit* (World) 1995-1999, 2005
Created first food security framework (agriculture/ livelihoods, health, micro-enterprise, safety net, education and emergency). Provided technical assistance and capacity building on food aid to 14 field offices. Trained over 200 international staff in person and communities of practice. Co-led grant-writing team that won grants totaling over \$30 million in US government grants and co-managed \$4 million of USAID ISA grant to CRS worldwide food security programming.

Ilorin Diocese Wrote 50 grants for (current) Cardinal Onaiyekan for pan-Nigerian projects (Nigeria), with a 60% success rate. 1987

Corporate: Forestry, Management Consulting and Investment Banking

[Lesy Cekanova](#), Owner and CEO of 535-hectare forest and staff (Czech Republic) 1995-present
Price Waterhouse, Coopers & Lybrand Management Consultant (USA and Czech Rep.) 1990, 1991
Salomon Brothers NY HQ, Corporate Finance Analyst (USA) 1984-1989

GRANTS/ UNIVERSITY TEACHING/ FELLOWSHIPS:

- * **Michael Scriven's Faster Forward Fund post-project evaluation research grant** 2017
- * **The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University (USA)** 1994
Adjunct Asst Prof of Politics
- * **Harvard University (USA)**
Head Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Arts & Sci. Fall 1992-94, Spring 92 1992-1994
- * **PhD Fellowships: African Studies Centre, University of Cambridge, UK** 1990-91
- * **Pew Charitable Trust (1990-92), The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy** 1990, 1993-94

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/ BOARD MEMBERSHIPS, HONORS:

- [Univ. Cambridge Advisory Mentor](#) for the Queen's Young Leaders 2018
- KUSARD, [Decent Living](#) (Kenyan NGO Board Advisor and donor) 2004-2018
- The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy DC Board and Speaker 2014-2017
- Washington (Buddhist) Mindfulness Community Board of Directors 1998 and 2015-17
- American, European and Czech Evaluation Associations member and speaker 2005-now
- Harvard University Faculty of Arts & Sciences Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, based on student evaluations, in top 5% of Harvard's 1,000 Teaching Assistants 1993-94

SAMPLE of PUBLICATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

- USAID Local Systems Community presentation [Sustainable Development? Prove It! Improve it!](#) (2017)
- "[Building the evidence base for post-project evaluation](#)" Report to Scriven's Faster Forward Fund (2017)
- University of Toronto Evaluation Centre M&E Speaker [Sustained and Emerging Impacts](#) (2017)
- Webinar for DME for Peace: "[Built to last? Embedding sustainability in the project cycle](#)" [Recording here](#), (2017)
- [European Evaluation Society, American Evaluation Association Conference presentations \(2016\)](#)
- [CARE East, Central and Southern Africa \(ECASA\) Regional Conference in East Africa \(2016\)](#)
- [Global Policy Journal "How to Foster Sustainability"](#) (2016)
- [Better Evaluation Theme: Sustained and Emerging Impacts Evaluations \(2016\)](#)
- [Stanford Social Innovation Review \(SSIR\) "When Funders Move On"](#)
- [Sirius XM Radio/ U Penn Wharton Business School "'Social Impact' on Dollars and Change"](#) (2015)
- [American Evaluation Association AEA365 "Evaluation and Sustainability"](#) (2015)
- [American Evaluation Assoc. "Furthering Community self-Sustainability of our Projects"](#) (2014)
- "Appreciative Strategic Planning at World Vision USA" [Axiom News](#) and "One Chance to Get it Right: 7 Key Pillars for Achieving Food Security" for Women Thrive <http://womenthrive.org/images/7key-pillars.pdf> (2011)

Our vision, mission, blogs and work at: www.ValuingVoices.com.

References available upon request.