

CURRICULUM VITAE – THOMAS NIELSEN

1. **Family name:** NIELSEN
2. **First names:** Thomas
3. **Year of birth:** 1962
4. **Nationality:** Danish
5. **Education:**

Institution (Date from - Date to)	Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained:
Roskilde University Centre, September 1984 – November 1991	M.Sc. in Geography and International Development Studies
University of East Anglia, Norwich, United Kingdom (September 2013)	Certificate two weeks course in Climate Change and Development
Postgraduate studies in Land Management and Land Tenure. Technische Universität München, Germany (May -Dec 2003).	Approval of participation.

6. **Language skills:** Indicate competence on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 - excellent; 5 - basic)

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing
<i>Danish</i>	<i>native speaker</i>	<i>native speaker</i>	<i>native speaker</i>
English	1	1	1
Spanish	1	1	1
French	1	2	3

7. **Other skills:** Microsoft applications.
8. **Present position:** Consultant affiliated to HN Consultants Aps
9. **Personal email:** thomasn737@gmail.com

10. **Key qualifications:**

20+ years of experience within the area of development planning, environment, and poverty reduction, including positions with Danida in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Bolivia as well as with the Global Green Growth Institute (global) and UNDP (Honduras). The experience has also included a number of short and long-term consultancies, including formulation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes in Latin America and in French-speaking West Africa.

The experience has been focused on natural resources management, sustainable livelihoods, human rights, indigenous peoples' rights, civil society participation and decentralisation.

Significant leadership experience from being team leader on consultancy missions and from managing field offices in Nicaragua and Guatemala. In addition, experience with institutional capacity building working with ministries, municipalities and civil society organizations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Long term positions.

- 2020: **Denmark.** HN Consultants: Affiliated senior consultant in the area of development planning and management (*present employment*)
- 2017 – 2020: **Bolivia.** Nordeco (Nordic Agency for Development and Ecology). Affiliated senior consultant.
- 2015 – 2017: **South Korea.** Global Green Growth Institute. Poverty and Social Inclusion Adviser.
- 2013 – 2014: **Denmark.** HN Consultants: Affiliated senior consultant in the area of development planning and management.
- 2009 – 2013: **Central America** (based in Guatemala). Government of Denmark (Danida): Senior adviser for Denmark’s Regional Environment Programme in Central America.
- 2003 - 2009: **Denmark.** HN Consultants: Senior consultant in the area of development planning and management.
- 2000 – 2003: **Bolivia.** Government of Denmark (Danida) – Government of Bolivia: Environment and decentralisation adviser.
- 1998 - 1999: **Nicaragua.** Government of Denmark (Danida) – Government of Nicaragua. Chief Technical Adviser: “Sustainable development in the municipality of El Castillo”.
- 1995 - 1997: **Guatemala.** United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA). Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Verification Officer.
- 1992 - 1995: **Honduras.** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
➤ Programme Officer (JPO): Human rights, social development and decentralisation.
➤ Programme adviser: Environment and indigenous peoples’ land rights.

Selected detailed experience:

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT.

- 03/17-09/20: **Bolivia.** Nordeco (Nordic Agency for Development and Ecology). Affiliated senior consultant.

As the in-country responsible manager for the project grantee (Nordeco), I supported and collaborated with two local NGOs in the implementation of the project: Indigenous Forest Management for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Northern La Paz, Bolivia.
- 01/15-02/17: **South Korea** (global). Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). Poverty and Social Inclusion Adviser.

The objective of the assignment was to increase GGGI’s focus on poverty reduction and social inclusion as part of green growth, both at the overall strategic level and in programming at country level, including in Ethiopia, Rwanda, Mongolia, Philippines and Colombia.
- 06/13-12/13: **Central America.** Denmark’s Environment Programme in Central America 2014-2016 (team leader).

Formulation of Denmark’s Environment Programme in Central America with a focus on eco-enterprise development and indigenous peoples’ land management.
- 03/13-10/13: **Bolivia.** Denmark’s Embassy in Bolivia, 2014-2018 (team leader).

- Formulation of the Danish supported program for “Promotion of Sustainable Resource Management and Climate Change” with a focus on protection of vulnerable rain forests and the sustainable livelihoods of indigenous communities.
- 05/13-07/13: **Mexico.** Denmark’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida).
Appraisal of Denmark’s programme in support of climate change mitigation and sustainable energy in Mexico.
- 2009- 2013: **Central America.** Government of Denmark (Danida):
Senior adviser for Denmark’s Regional Environment Programme in Central America.
The specific responsibilities included:
- Advise on implementation of the programme with a focus on support to eco-enterprise development based on a value-chain approach. This included support to indigenous communities and cooperatives in the areas of sustainable coffee, cocoa and textile production with the use of environment and fair-trade certifications as an incentive to improve the quality of the products.
 - Support to the development and implementation of projects in the area of climate change, including a REDD+ pilot project to protect vulnerable rain forests through conservation and sustainable productive activities with local farmers.
 - Coordination of the programme monitoring system and support to partners in relation to their monitoring.
- 2006-2008: **Bolivia.** Programme for Support to Sustainable Development, Natural Resource Management and Environment in Bolivia (HN Consultants - Danida).
Three annual reviews of the Programme, including detailed preparatory reviews of the components in support of (i) protected areas management, (ii) cleaner production in the industrial sector and (iii) “Support to the National Watershed Management Programme”.
- 06/07 – 08/07: **Nicaragua.** Environment Sector Programme, phase II, Nicaragua (HN Consultants - Danida).
Joint review and reprogramming mission for the period 2008-2011, with a focus on the support for the protection of vulnerable rain forests as part of the national system of protected areas.
- 09/05 – 07/06: **Central America.** Denmark’s Regional Environment Programme in Central America (HN Consultants - Danida).
Various assignments to complete the design and initiate Denmark’s Regional Environment Programme in Central America, including the support to regional environment policy, support to eco-enterprises, civil society environment advocacy and decentralized environmental management.
- 2004 – 2005: **Central America.** Denmark’s Regional Environment Programme in Central America. (HN Consultants - Danida).
Identification and formulation of Denmark’s Regional Environment Programme in Central America, 2005-2010. (team leader)
- 01/05 – 02/05: **Bolivia.** Programme for Danish Support to the Environment Sector in Bolivia (HN Consultants/COWI - Danida).
Final review of Denmark’s Support to the Environment Sector in Bolivia, phase I.
- 2000 – 2003: **Bolivia.** Government of Denmark (Danida) – Government of Bolivia (department of Chuquisaca): Environment and decentralisation adviser.
The specific responsibilities included:
- Design and monitoring of projects within the areas of watershed management and

- protected areas of indigenous communities, as well as urban environment projects and inter-cultural environment education in primary schools.
- Institutional strengthening of the regional government department for environment and natural resources and participating municipalities in the department of Chuquisaca.
- 10/98 – 05/99: **Nicaragua.** Chief Technical Adviser a.i: “Sustainable Bufferzone Management in the Municipality of El Castillo” (Danida) with the overall purpose of protecting the rain forest of the Indio-Maiz Biological Reserve.
- In addition to overall coordination, the specific responsibilities included:
- Promotion of sustainable agroforestry production systems, including sustainable cocoa production, and community development using participatory methodologies.
 - Preparation of a land-titling process.
 - Policy development for buffer zone and protected area management.
- 03/97 – 04/97: **Nicaragua.** External consultant. Danida (two assignments).
- Status and project formulation mission for the project: Sustainable Bufferzone Management in the Municipality of El Castillo.
 - Fact finding mission on the Meso-American biological corridor.
- 1994 - 1995: **Honduras.** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Government of Honduras and three indigenous peoples’ organisations. Programme adviser: Environment and indigenous peoples’ land rights.
- The specific responsibilities included:
- Support to protected area management in indigenous territories.
 - Support and monitoring of a land titling programme of indigenous peoples’ lands.
 - Promotion of participatory community development projects.
- GOOD GOVERNANCE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION.**
- 09/08 - 11/08: **Cote d’Ivoire.** International Media Support (IMS – international NGO based in Denmark).
- Monitoring of IMS electoral activities in Cote d’Ivoire.
- 05/08 – 07/08: **Benin.** Denmark’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (COWI-Danida).
- Appraisal of Danish assistance to democracy and the rule of law in Benin for the period 2009-2011.
- 02/07 - 04/07: **Denmark.** Denmark’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (HN Consultants-Danida).
- Policy study concerning civil society issues in Danish bilateral development assistance (Responsible for issues related with Central America).
- 05/04 – 06/04: **Central America.** Denmark’s Human Rights and Democracy Programme in Central America (HN Consultants - Danida).
- Identification mission for the preparation of Denmark’s Human Rights and Democracy Programme in Central America.
- 02/04 – 05/04: **Burkina Faso, Niger and Ghana.** Denmark’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida).
- Desk studies in preparation of Danida performance reviews in Burkina Faso, Niger and Ghana.
- 08/03 – 09/03: **Denmark.** The Danish NGO “Ibis” (HN Consultants)
- Evaluation of the Programme to support civil society participation in the preparation of PRS Papers in Zambia, Honduras and Nicaragua.
- 1996 – 1999: **Central America.** Denmark’s Human Rights Programme in Central America, PRODECA (Danida).

Appraisal and two reviews of the Programme, including input to design of a specific component to support human rights and democracy in the framework of the peace process in Guatemala.

1998 - 1999:

Guatemala and Greenland. Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke (Danish Association for International Co-operation).

Two assignments, including (i) A study of possibilities for promoting a development and reconciliation process in the municipality of Colotenango (Guatemala); and (ii) a proposal for a co-operation programme between the Inuit people of Greenland and the Mayan people of Guatemala.

09/95 – 01/97:

Guatemala. United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA). Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples' Rights Verification Officer.

The specific responsibilities included:

- Verification of the Human Rights Agreement and the Agreement on the Identity and the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples signed by the Government of Guatemala and the guerrilla.
- Organisation of educational activities about the peace process, human rights and indigenous rights.

1992 - 1994:

Honduras. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Programme Officer (JPO): Human rights, social development and decentralisation.

The specific responsibilities included:

- Planning and monitoring of development projects
- Preparation and evaluation of project documents.
- Financial and human resource mobilisation activities.