

CURRICULUM VITAE: DR IR CARIN VIJFHUIZEN

I am an agricultural development sociologist (PhD) and an ecological advisor (in training), with 37 years of professional experience in the Netherlands, Africa, the Middle East and South East Asia. I facilitate change processes within organizations, agriculture, and the natural environment, aiming to establish more resilient socio-ecological practices and systems. I bring a unique combination of strategic vision, hands-on coordination, and people-oriented leadership. My strength lies in delivering tailor-made solutions that precisely align with the needs of people and local contexts. I am both analytical and action-oriented, with a strong commitment to quality and social impact. My published books exemplify this profile.

WORK EXPERIENCE

MAY-JULY 2026

Carin Vijfhuizen Advies en Consultancy

- Wageningen University: Coach Academic Consultancy Training

1 July 2025 – 1 July 2026

COA Netherlands – Casemanager Oostrum

- Phase-specific, methodical guidance for residents: initial phase, return, and residence permit holders.
- Conducting future-oriented guidance sessions or "bad news" conversations.
- Coaching on societal integration and sustainable return.
- Management and collaboration within COA and across the chain (AVIM, DT&V, IND, IOM, Solid Road).
- Interview reports; case management and local chain consultations; regional and national meetings.

April 2017 – June 2025

Carin Vijfhuizen Advice & Consultancy, Steyl – Team Leader, Programme Manager, Researcher

- **Jan-June 2025** Sociological research in agricultural sector (IBR - stakeholder analysis) | SLEE-B
- **2024:** Program manager - funding proposals for vocational and university institutions in Ghana | PUM.
- **06/2023 – 02/2024:** Key Expert 1, Team Leader | Luvent Consultancy – Monitoring UN/EU programs in Iraq on social security, ICT, UNESCO World Heritage, and employment.
- **2023:** Program manager international multidisciplinary education programs | NUFFIC.
- **2019 & 2023:** Communications Advisor | Wageningen University – Tailor-made learning paths.
- **2019–2022:** Program Manager | ICRA – Multidisciplinary project on partnerships and the labour market with six universities in Iraq. Author.
- **11/2019–02/2020:** Program Manager for international education programs | NUFFIC.
- **12/2018:** Successful tender formulation for multidisciplinary cooperation between Dutch and Indonesian green education institutions | MSM.
- **2018/2019:** Committee Member Africa | VLIR-UOS. And Program manager international multidisciplinary education programs | NUFFIC. Author.
- **2017:** Team Leader | Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Research in South Africa and Indonesia on structural collaboration between Dutch and local green education institutions, including stakeholder and needs analyses and stakeholder conferences.

AUGUST 2014 – OCTOBER 2016

CINOP International, Den Bosch – Principal of an International Vocational College in Saudi Arabia

- Establishing and developing an international vocational college in Al-Hasa, Saudi Arabia.
- Leading the management team, 100 staff members, and 1,000 students.
- Responsible for mission, vision, strategic documents, and education programs.
- Establishing and chairing a labour market advisory board for curriculum input and employment.
- Monitoring the Career Development Centre for On-the-Job Training (OJT) in companies.

MAY 2007 – JUNE 2014**NUFFIC, The Hague – Senior Program Manager**

- Conducting identification missions, including the formulation of project proposals for tendering to build institutional capacity in Africa and the Middle East.
- Designing country programs and managing country portfolios of €10–15 million each in Tanzania, South Africa, Egypt, Yemen, Bangladesh, and the Palestinian Territories.
- Ensuring stakeholder involvement and strategic communication with governments, companies, universities, vocational institutions, industry, NGOs, etc., including co-financing.
- Monitoring the success of the projects that are implemented by the educational institutions in Africa and the Middle East in collaboration with the Dutch educational instituters and other stakeholders.

DECEMBER 2004 – DECEMBER 2006**MSM, Maastricht – Team Leader Gender Centre, Aden University, Yemen**

- Implementing and monitoring a project to strengthen the gender research centre in Aden University.
- Coordinating the team and enhanced their capacities.
- Developing educational programs on irrigation and gender.
- Lecturing at Sanaa University.
- Conducting research on women entrepreneurs and other stakeholders in Aden.

NOVEMBER 2002 – NOVEMBER 2004**Wageningen University – Student Advisor and Competency Profile Developer**

- Advising MSc students in International Development Studies: tailor-made learning trajectories.
- Formulating competency profiles for BSc and MSc programs in International Development Studies.
- Completing research on the cashew sector in Mozambique, published with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), London. <https://www.iied.org/9554iied>

NOVEMBER 1998 – OCTOBER 2002**Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Professor, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique**

- Professor at Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo.
- Leading and coordinating the Communication and Development Studies department.
- Lecturing and supervising students' thesis writing.
- Designing an MSc program in Development Studies with multiple departments and stakeholders.
- Conducting research on land use and research with IIED on the cashew sector in Mozambique.
- Publishing policy and research reports.

APRIL 1994 – APRIL 1998**Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Researcher, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe**

- Researcher at the University of Zimbabwe.
- PhD research on daily life and governance in a Ndau village with an irrigation scheme.
- Supervising students in their research.
- Developing policies on the management of irrigation systems.
- Consultant for IFAD on irrigation and gender.

JANUARY 1990 – APRIL 1993**RDP Livestock Services, Zambia – Coordinator of Socio-Economic Research Team**

- Coordinating a socio-economic research team in a livestock development project.
- Stakeholder analysis and research-based policy formulation.
- Consultancy assignments to assess effectiveness and efficiency of implemented projects.

EDUCATION

Degree / Courses	Institution
Ecological advisor (BSc level) Courses at COA	IPD Opleidingen (Sept 2026- June 2027) Advisory skills; reporting skills; IBIS; company emergency response; interview skills; domestic violence
Courses in writing (2021, 2024)	Writers Academy Amsterdam
MBA certificates in Leadership (2012–2014-2015)	NCOI
PhD in Development Sociology (1994–1998)	Wageningen University
MSc in Development Sociology + 4 additional subjects (1984–1989)	Wageningen University
BSc in Economics and Animal Husbandry (1980–1984)	Applied University, Leeuwarden

SKILLS

- Stakeholder analysis and policy formulation
- Project management and leadership
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Project formulation and coordination
- Writing, research, publishing
- Coaching and supervision
- Multicultural communication

LANGUAGES

- Dutch and English: Fluent in speaking and writing
- Portuguese, French, German: good in reading and listening; reasonable in speaking and writing.
- Spanish: good in reading, fair in listening, speaking and writing

ACTIVITIES

Writer • Researcher • Poet • Mezzo-soprano • Mother and adoptive mother • Nature lover and birdwatcher • Hiker and camper • Home renovation

RECENT BOOK PUBLICATIONS

- *Geen Grip* (Elikser 2026), also in e-book
- *Worthwhile* (Novum, 2022) translated from *Jouw Schatkamer* (Novum, 2019)
- *We Want to Be Great* (Austin Macauley, 2022)
- *How Persistent That Tropical Blue Sky* (Elikser, 2022) also in e-book and in Dutch
- *Loftrompetten / Trumpets of Praise* (Elikser, 2024)

My books can be ordered via the publishers' websites or via [bol.com](https://www.bol.com) and [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)
See also: www.carinvijfhuizen.com