

## Julien de Meyer – IKAT Partner based in Australia

### Profile

Julien de Meyer has broad experience in rural development and project management and proven skills in leadership, training and communication. Julien is currently the director of Illudest Pty Ltd., a project management company that he has founded. Prior to this, and until January 2014, Julien was an Agricultural Research Officer with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He was previously the country manager for the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) based in the Australian Embassy in Jakarta (Indonesia). Julien previous experience includes the management of a private consultancy company and the leadership of the global training program of the International Center for Maize and Wheat Improvement (CIMMYT) in Mexico. He has experience in all aspects of project management in various cultural environment, having worked in Australia, Africa, Asia, the Pacific and Central America.

Julien has designed and managed long-term rural development projects and programs in Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Mexico and Indonesia and has worked and carried out short-term missions in developing countries in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Pacific. Julien has experience in project design, project management, business system development, monitoring and evaluation processes and capacity development, having provided support to governments at policy and institutional level and delivered training courses in English, French and Spanish. He holds an Agricultural Engineering degree and a M.Sc. from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich, is a University Medallist and speaks five languages. Julien is a dual citizen (Australian and Swiss) and is married with two children.

Education: Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich – Agricultural Engineer (Dipl. Ing. Agr. ETH; 1995).

Awards: ETH, Zurich, 1995; University Medal for Outstanding Diplomarbeit and prize CIMMYT, Mexico, 2000; Individual Research Award

### Experience

*2014 to Date - Canberra, Australia and Port Louis, Mauritius. Director, Illudest Pty Ltd.*

Illudest is an Australian consultancy firm specialising in the design, technical support and evaluation of development initiatives. As founding director, Julien has established the company and is in charge of the day-to-day administration, operations and implementation of mandates. Julien recent mandates are listed below.

*2011 to 2014 – Rome, Italy. Agriculture Research Officer, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.*

As an Agricultural Research Officer with the Research and Extension unit, Julien advised FAO member countries and partner organizations on the design and evaluation of program, policies and strategies for developing and strengthening agricultural innovation systems. Julien held the position of lead technical officer for various FAO projects including the Swaziland Agriculture Development project – a Euro 14 million EU funded program – and was seconded to the World Bank to provide technical assistance to their rural development programs in Peru, Bolivia and Indonesia.

*2008 to 2010 – Jakarta, Indonesia. Country Manager for the Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research (ACIAR).*

ACIAR is an Australian government agency that operates as part of Australia's aid program. As country manager in Jakarta, Julien provided scientific, technical and policy support to the ACIAR program in the country, represented the government in formal meetings, and managed the administration of ACIAR's largest country office. Key achievements in this position have been to successfully support the

implementation of a AUD 45 million agriculture research program. Julien's leadership has oriented the ACIAR program in Indonesia more firmly towards an Australian whole of government approach to policy development and policy dialogue and raised the profile of ACIAR in Indonesia through strategic public advocacy and media management.

*2005 to 2008 - Canberra, Australia. Manager and Associate at the Effective Development Group (Canberra, Australia).*

In 2005, EDG was a private consultancy and project management company. As manager, Julien was responsible for the day-to-day administration and operations, business development, project management and implementation of mandates. As an EDG associate, Julien was the designated expert to carry out technical mandates and was in charge of the development and delivery of training programs on project cycle management with an emphasis on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). Key achievements in this position were to increase the revenue of the business through quality improvement and targeted networking with relevant government agencies and private companies.

*1998 to 2004 - Mexico city, Mexico and Harare, Zimbabwe. Capacity Building Program Leader and Associate Scientist (Harare, Zimbabwe and Mexico City Mexico).*

As the leader for CIMMYT's global capacity building program based in Mexico, Julien developed and implemented a vision to modernize the teaching and training activities at the centre. He led a team that identified regional training requirements and, in collaboration with partners, developed a vision, elaborated the budgets, and produced material and teaching modules for training of trainers, farmers, agricultural scientists and extensionists. Prior to this role, Julien was based for more than three years in Zimbabwe as an associate scientist leading the evaluation of maize varieties in the Southern African Development Community.

## Selected list of consultancies and clients

- 2019 Kenya and Ethiopia – Support for elaboration of a monitoring system for the Swiss Cooperation Strategy Horn of Africa 2018 – 2021 (SDC Contract Number 81055165) - Includes RBM training and coaching.
- 2018 Albania – Developing a Monitoring and Evaluation System of the Swiss Cooperation Strategy 2018-2021 in Albania (SDC Contract number 81054263) - Includes RBM training and coaching.
- 2017 WBA and CIS – Training of Results Based Management and set up of outcome monitoring system in WBA and CIS (SDC Contract Number 81048206).
- 2017 – Bern – Screening and Choice of reference indicators, finalisation of factsheets and 2016 Colombia – Applied training on outcome monitoring system in the SCO Colombia (SDC contract Number 81044656).
- 2015 to 2017 – Honduras – Applied training on Outcome monitoring system in the SCO Honduras and follow up coaching mission on comprehensive outcome monitoring system of the portfolio and program-SCO Honduras (SDC Contract Number 81038585, 81046329, 81051981).
- 2017 - South Africa, Kenya and Rwanda – Consultation with stakeholders and drafting of Australian Government Agriculture Research engagement in East and Southern Africa – The regional strategy includes a performance framework - (ACIAR).
- 2016 - Switzerland – Support for the drafting of a H2N on the monitoring of Cooperation Strategies (CS) – SDC Switzerland - Review and input on the new template for the SDC annual report – SDC
- 2016 - Vietnam – Impact Assessment Study on the Value of capacity building in Bilateral Research projects: case Studies from Vietnam – ACIAR.

- 2016 - Australia - Design and lead the tender evaluation process of two Australian funded programs - Transformative Agriculture and Enterprise Development Program (TADEP) in Papua New Guinea and the Agricultural Value Chains Collaborative Research Program (AVCCR) in Pakistan - ACIAR.
- 2015 - India – Review of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) arrangement of the Integrated Breeding Platform (IBP) – International Centre for Maize and Wheat Improvement (CIMMYT)
- 2013 – Italy, Rome – Measure the research impact in European Agriculture. IMPRESA EU Project. Work Package Leader to support the development of the methodology and facilitate the learning across 7 public and private institutions across 6 European Countries.

## List of publications

2019 (Submitted) - ACIAR Impact Assessment program, stock take on effectiveness and reflection on new approaches. Alford, A.; de Meyer, J.; Agricultural Science Journal.

2017 – ACIAR Impact Assessment Series. Mullen, J.; de Meyer, J.; Gray, D.; Morris, G.; Recognising the Contribution of Capacity Building in ACIAR Bilateral Projects: Case Studies from Three Impact Assessment Series Reports.

2016 – ACIAR Technical Report - Mullen, J; De Meyer, J; Gray, D; Evaluating the impact of capacity building by ACIAR.

2015 - Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society. Gray, D; Mullen, J; De Meyer, J; Evaluation and Targeting of Formal and Informal Capacity Building in ACIAR Training and Research Programs.