

Dr. Susan Steiner

Profile

Susan is a researcher with over fifteen years' experience in economic research, impact evaluation and survey design. She has led several research projects and published her work in renowned peer-reviewed journals. Her main topic of interest is demographics, but she also has experience in agriculture, climate change, insurance, and labour.

In recent years, Susan has been working as an impact evaluation specialist for several international organizations and non-governmental organizations in the development sector. She is experienced with both experimental and non-experimental evaluation designs. She advises and builds capacity on the design and implementation of impact evaluations and quality assures survey design, implementation, analysis and reporting.

Professional Experience

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| 2021 to date | rowsquared
<i>Co-Founder – Research and Evaluation</i> |
| 2021 to date | <i>Independent</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design and implementation of evaluations• Survey design• Quality assurance for data collections, survey data analysis and impact evaluation• Capacity building and training |
| 2018 – 2023 | Leibniz Universität Hannover, Hannover, Germany
<i>Adjunct Professor for Development Economics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teach one course per year on impact evaluation to Master students |
| 2018 – 2020 | Center for Evaluation and Development, Mannheim, Germany
<i>Senior Evaluation Consultant and Head of Quality Assurance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project management for consultancy services to support the Learning Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment Programme for the Independent Evaluation Unit of the Green Climate Fund• Lead for data collections and impact evaluations in Indonesia, Pakistan, Azerbaijan and South Africa• Team leader for Research Managers• As member of the Board of Directors, consulting with the Executive Directors on the strategic development of the company• Leadership for an internal working group on data quality: establishment of internal processes and elaboration of standardized material• Organization of internal training for employees• Project acquisition• Quality assurance of proposals, reports and data collections |
| 2013 – 2018 | Leibniz Universität Hannover, Hannover, Germany
<i>Assistant Professor for Development Economics</i> |

- Co-lead and research within the project “Life and Integration in Germany” (2017, funding by German Research Foundation, Leibniz Universität Hannover, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, and Walter Eucken Institute)
- Lead and research within the project “Insurance and Private Transfers – Experimental Evidence” (2015-2017, funding by German Research Foundation)
- Research within the project “Gender and Employment in Central Asia - Evidence from Panel Data” (2013-2015, funding by Department for International Development)
- Evaluation of the impact of forced marriages
- Teaching for undergraduate and graduate students in statistical methods, impact evaluation designs, and development economics
- Supervision of doctoral students in the Research Training Group 1723 Globalisation and Development” (funding by German Research Foundation)
- Acquisition of research funds

2010 – 2013

German Institute for Economic Research, Berlin, Germany

Researcher

- Research within the project “Economic Transformation, Household Behaviour and Well-Being in Central Asia: The Case of Kyrgyzstan” (2010-2013, funding by Volkswagen Foundation)
- Writing of a policy brief on the market potential of microinsurance
- Acquisition of research funds
- Deputy head of the department "Development and Security"
- Representation of the department at the Institute’s management meetings

2007 - 2010

University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

- Research on social protection and capital market based funding for microfinance
- Analysis of the role of microinsurance for social protection
- Continuous monitoring of capital market based funds for microfinance

2006

UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago de Chile, Chile

Guest Researcher

- Assessment of microinsurance
- Survey of microinsurance policies in Latin America
- Elaboration of a study design to investigate the demand for microinsurance

2002 – 2009

German Institute for Global and Area Studies, Hamburg, Germany

Researcher

- Lead for research project “Determinants of Demand for Microinsurance in Ghana” (2008-2010, funding by DZ Bank Foundation)
- Research within the project “Evaluating the Impact of Decentralisation on Poverty in Uganda” (2004-2006, funding by Fritz Thyssen Foundation)
- Writing of policy briefs on the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, Africa and the WTO, debt relief for the poorest countries, and poverty in states at conflict
- Conduct capacity building workshops on statistical methods for GIGA staff

Education

2002 – 2007	University of Leipzig, Germany PhD in African Studies (focus on economics)
2001 – 2002	Kiel Institute for the World Economy, Germany Advanced Studies Program in International Economic Policy Research
1995 – 2001	Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Germany Diploma (equivalent to B.A. and M.A.) in Business Administration / Intercultural Management

Languages

German (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Very good), French (Good), Russian (Basic)

Countries of Work Experience

Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Chile, Germany, India, Kyrgyzstan, Uganda, United Kingdom, South Africa

Software Skills

MS Office, STATA, LaTeX, Wrike, CSPro, Survey Solutions, ArcGIS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Lenel, Friederike and **Susan Steiner** (2020): Formal Insurance and Solidarity. Experimental Evidence from Cambodia. *Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization* 174: 212-234.

Keusch, Florian, Mariel M. Leonard, Christoph Sajons and **Susan Steiner** (2019): Using Smartphone Technology for Research on Refugees: Evidence from Germany. *Sociological Methods and Research* 50(4): 1863-1894.

Steiner, Susan and Charles Becker (2019): How Marriages Based on Bride Capture Differ: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan. *Demographic Research* 41(29): 579-592.

Landmann, Andreas, Helke Seitz and **Susan Steiner** (2017): Patrilocal Residence and Female Labour Supply: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan. *Demography* 55(6): 2181-2203.

Becker, Charles, Bakhrom Mirkasimov and **Susan Steiner** (2017): Forced Marriage and Birth Outcomes. *Demography* 54(4): 1401-1423.

Tanika Chakraborty, Bakhrom Mirkasimov and **Susan Steiner** (2015): Transfer Behavior in Migrant Sending Communities. *Journal of Comparative Economics* 43(3): 690-705.

Lena Giesbert and **Susan Steiner** (2015): Client Perceptions of the Value of Microinsurance: Evidence from Southern Ghana. *Journal of International Development* 27 (1): 15-35.

Damir Esenaliev and **Susan Steiner** (2014): Ethnicity and the Distribution of Welfare: Evidence from Southern Kyrgyzstan. *Journal of Comparative Economics* 42 (4): 970-982.

Tilman Brück, Damir Eseanliev, Antje Kroeger, Alma Kudebayeva, Bakhrom Mirkasimov and **Susan Steiner** (2014): Household Survey Data for Research on Well-Being and Behavior in Central Asia, *Journal of Comparative Economics* 42 (3): 819-835.

Giesbert, Lena, **Susan Steiner** and Mirko Bendig (2011): Participation in Micro Life Insurance and the Use of Other Financial Services in Ghana, *Journal of Risk and Insurance* 78 (1): 7-35.

Steiner, Susan (2010): How Important is the Capacity of Local Governments for Improvements in Welfare? Evidence from Decentralised Uganda, *Journal of Development Studies* 46 (4): 644-661.

Steiner, Susan (2008): Constraints on the Implementation of Decentralisation and Implications for Poverty Reduction – The Case of Uganda, in: Gordon Crawford and Christof Hartmann (Hrsg.): *Decentralisation in Africa. A Pathway out of Poverty and Conflict?*, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, S. 33-72.

Steiner, Susan (2007): Decentralisation and Poverty: Conceptual Framework and Application to Uganda, *Public Administration and Development* 27 (2): 175-185.

Kappel, Robert, Jann Lay and **Susan Steiner** (2005): Uganda: No more Pro-Poor Growth?, *Development Policy Review* 23 (1): 27-53.

Kappel, Robert, Jann Lay and **Susan Steiner** (2004): Uganda in the 1990s. A Case of Pro-Poor Growth, in: Michael Krakowski (Hrsg.): *Attacking Poverty. What Makes Growth Pro-Poor?*, HWWA Studies 75, Baden-Baden: Nomos-Verlag, S. 197-223.

Project Experience (2018–2023)

Project **Real-Time Evaluation of UNICEF's Response to the Outflow of Refugees from Ukraine**

Client UNICEF Europe and Central Asia Region

Year 2022-2023

Details The Europe and Central Asia Regional Office of UNICEF is coordinating UNICEF's response to the outflow of refugees from Ukraine to other countries. This refugee response is to undergo a real-time assessment to facilitate learning within the organization. In addition to more traditional data sources to be used for evaluations, this assessment will also rely on social media monitoring and listening. The use of these data will allow a broader perspective and also faster understanding.

Role Team Leader: evaluation co-design, supervision of team that builds up data architecture and data visualization, qualitative data collection, data analysis, communication with UNICEF, capacity building.

Project **Impact Assessment of the Inclusive Rural Development Program in Argentina**

Client World Bank / International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Year 2021-2022

Details The Research and Impact Assessment Division of IFAD conducts an impact assessment of the Programa del Desarrollo Rural Incluyente (PRODERI) in Argentina. This program was designed with the objective to support the rural poor, targeting indigenous peoples, smallholder farmers with inadequate capitalization and links to value chains, and rural workers without access to land and with low incomes. It was deployed in 17 of the 23 provinces between 2012 and 2020.

Role Survey and impact evaluation expert: inputs to evaluation design, sample selection, design of protocols and questionnaires for qualitative and quantitative data

collection, oversee design of data quality system, remote supervision of the data collection firm, data cleaning and analysis, report writing

Project	E-Learning Platform on Impact Assessment
Client	Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED) / International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Year	2021
Details	The Research and Impact Assessment Division of IFAD sets up an e-learning platform for IFAD staff, inside and outside of RIA, on how to conduct impact assessments. The resulting course is divided into ten modules, covering the entire impact assessment cycle (starting with defining a theory of change for the projects to be assessed and finishing with data analysis, reporting and dissemination of results).
Role	Quality assurer: review the material put together by C4ED and adjust to the IFAD context, provide feedback on the concept and course script for the e-learning platform, including graphical illustrations and knowledge checks to be used
Project	Impact Evaluation of the Climate Finance Facility
Client	C4ED / Green Climate Fund (GCF)
Year	2019 to date
Country	Southern Africa (South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, eSwatini)
Details	The Climate Finance Facility of the Development Bank of Southern Africa is a lending facility that aims at increasing climate-related investment in the Southern African region. It is co-funded by GCF. The Climate Finance Facility is to undergo an impact evaluation as part of the Learning-Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment programme funded by the GCF's Independent Evaluation Unit and co-implemented by C4ED.
Role	Impact evaluation specialist: impact evaluation design, capacity building for DBSA on monitoring project implementation and measuring impact, elaborate a pre-analysis plan, data analysis and reporting
Project	Learning-Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment Programme
Client	Green Climate Fund, Independent Evaluation Unit
Year	2018 - 2020
Details	The goal of the Learning-Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment programme is to measure whether GCF projects lead to lower greenhouse gas emissions and enhanced resilience to climate change, and if so, by how much. The tool for doing so are rigorous impact assessments. Empirical evidence on the impacts of climate-related projects is rather scarce, which adds to the importance of this programme.
Role	Programme coordinator: project management (including budgeting and reporting) for the programme as a whole, supervision of impact evaluation teams, communication with GCF as well as with impact evaluation teams on the progress of the programme, quality assurance of reports
Project	An Evaluation of the Impact of Informational Nudges on Insurance Uptake
Client	World Bank, Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund
Year	2019-2020
Country	Azerbaijan

Details The President of Azerbaijan issued a decree in December 2018 to set up health insurance nationwide. One of the main concerns was how to achieve high uptake, especially among people working in the informal sector. With the help of an evaluation, the impact of different informational “nudges” on people’s willingness to sign up was to be tested. This evaluation was supposed to be a nimble evaluation, i.e., producing results quickly made possible by the analysis of administrative data.

Role Impact evaluation specialist: impact evaluation design, capacity building for the State Agency for Mandatory Health Insurance on measuring impact

Project **Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh**

Client Rural Support Program Network

Year 2018-2020

Country Pakistan

Details The overall objective of the four-year programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh is to sustainably improve the nutritional status of children under five and of pregnant and lactating women. One of the components includes nutrition-sensitive interventions, i.e., water, sanitation and hygiene, and agriculture & food security. This component is undergoing an impact evaluation conducted by RSPN, with technical advice by C4ED.

Role Impact evaluation specialist: impact evaluation design, sampling strategy and sampling of respondents, review of baseline report

Project **Impact Assessment of the Coastal Community Development Project (CCDP)**

Client IFAD

Year 2018

Country Indonesia

Details The CCDP was implemented by IFAD to reduce poverty and enhance sustainable and replicable economic growth in coastal and small island communities. RIA planned to conduct an impact assessment of this project and hired C4ED for the data collection. A survey among 2,800 fishermen and 90 community leaders as well as key-informant interview and focus group discussions were implemented.

Role Team leader for the data collection: supervision of an Indonesian team for data collection, development of a sampling strategy, supervision of a team of three C4ED experts working on the data collection, back stopping and quality assurance