

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rekha Wazir

March 2018

Professional Profile

I have been active in the field of children and development since 1976, starting with my doctoral dissertation for Cambridge University (UK) on education and development in rural Kashmir, India. In 1994, I co-founded International Child Development Initiatives (ICDI) – a non-profit foundation based in the Netherlands – of which I was the co-director from 1994 to 2007 and currently hold the position of senior advisor. Prior to that, I held senior positions at the Bernard van Leer Foundation and worked in a research and advisory capacity in international agencies like the ILO, FAO, IDRC, UNESCO, UNICEF and UNDP. I have extensive international experience in the areas of education and development, children and youth at risk, gender and development, social policy and NGO management. My special expertise lies in combining aspects of research, policy and practice in these fields.

I was part of the core teaching staff and the deputy convener of the Postgraduate Diploma on Children, Youth and Development offered jointly by the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague and International Child Development Initiatives, Leiden. I taught courses on education, child labour, child abuse, child poverty, early childhood education and ran a film study programme.

I have a broad range of research interests that span issues including education, gender, child labour, child abuse, childcare and child poverty, focussing primarily on India but within a comparative, global framework. In 1997 I worked on a comparative investigation of child sexual abuse policies in five European countries. This research was funded by the Dutch Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Sports and the results were published in book entitled *Child Sexual Abuse: What Can Governments Do?*.

In 1999, I co-ordinated a study on basic education in India for the consultative body of the four Dutch co-financing agencies (Gemeenschappelijk Overleg Medefinanciering). This was published under the title *The Gender Gap in Basic Education: NGOs as Change Agents*. In 2000, I conducted an extensive review of the MV Foundation – an NGO that has developed an innovative approach to universalising education and eliminating child labour in Andhra Pradesh. This was published by UNDP New Delhi in 2002 as the first in its series on Practical Approaches to Eliminating Child Labour. In 2001 I was awarded a research grant by the Indo-Dutch Programme on Alternatives in Development (IDPAD) to conduct field research in India for a project on “The Interface between Education and Child Labour: A Review of Intervention Strategies”. This has resulted in a series of journal articles and book chapters.

In 2004 I was joint co-ordinator of a three-year multi-country research project, funded by Plan Netherlands, to identify the ‘new, emerging’ needs confronting children at present and to lay the basis for future research and analysis of this theme. The results of this research have been published in a book entitled *Newly Emerging Needs of Children: An Exploratory Essay*. In addition to co-authoring this book, I also researched and wrote the chapter on India, which was subsequently extended to a journal article.

In 2008, I worked on issues of child poverty and child wellbeing in India in a research project commissioned by UNICEF, India, arguing the case for a paradigm shift, from an exclusive focus on children in poor households to the holistic wellbeing of all children. The results have been published as a journal article, in the UNICEF –IHD Working Paper series and in an edited book entitled *India's Children: Essays in Social Policy*.

From 2013-2017 I worked on an innovative pilot project built on the principles of south-south collaboration and capacity building funded by the MasterCard foundation as part of the Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education initiative (PSIPSE). Good practice from India, provided by the MV Foundation, was disseminated to two distinct settings – a rural area in Kenya and an urban slum in Uganda. In each country, the implementing NGO was partnered with a local university to enable data collection, documentation, and a number of research reports designed to streamline project strategies and influence local government policies. Local youth were enabled to produce audio-visual materials for purposes of advocacy and dissemination in Kenya, Uganda and India. An additional output was an edited book entitled *Changing Social Norms to Universalize Girls' Education in East Africa* containing contributions from project staff and other senior practitioners.

At present I am involved in an advisory capacity in an ongoing project to universalize secondary education for girls in selected locations in Andhra Pradesh/Telangana. The project is implemented by MV Foundation and is funded by Stichting Charity Fund Rijsholt - a Netherlands based non-profit foundation. This project contains elements of strategy development, research and development of training modules.

Employment Record

International Child Development Initiatives (ICDI), Leiden, The Netherlands, August 1994 onwards

Co-Founder (1994), Co-Director (1994-2007), Senior Associate (November 2007 onwards). ICDI is a non-profit foundation established in the Netherlands in 1994. It acts as an advocate for marginalised children and youth and provides an international platform for policy, practice, programme development, training and research. ICDI works internationally on a range of issues such as child abuse, child labour, education, HIV/AIDS, children with disability, foster care, child-rights-based programming and psychosocial development of children, among others. It collaborates with NGOs, government agencies and research, teaching and training institutions. For a full listing of ICDI activities see www.ICDI.nl.

International Centre for Child and Youth Studies (ICCYS)

Co-Director (2003-2005) ICCYS is a specialized unit for training, research and policy analysis established in 2003 and jointly run by ICDI and the Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague. ICCYS undertakes and promotes multi-disciplinary training and research, policy analysis, programme development and local capacity building in a number of specific fields in relation to childhood and youth. The core activities of ICCYS include a Post Graduate Diploma on Children, Youth and Development and a research programme on Rethinking Childhood.

Bernard van Leer Foundation, The Hague, The Netherlands, March 1989 - July 1994

Coordinator Programme Development. The specific tasks included: monitoring and periodic review of the Foundation's global programme for pre-school children; strengthening programme development activities at the regional/country level through interaction with regional Desks; responsibility for managing and coordinating the process of submission of proposals to the Board of Trustees; interaction with other development agencies; identification of appropriate human and institutional resources for reinforcing programme development in the Foundation. Prior to this appointment, I was the *Desk Officer for Asia*.

FAO, Rome, December 1988 - February 1989.

Consultant to prepare a paper on the 'Impact of Irrigation on Women in Asia'.

Institute of Social Studies Advisory Service (ISSAS), The Hague, August – December 1988.

Consultant to the Sri Lanka Project of ISSAS and the Ministry of Finance, Government of The Netherlands, to (a) prepare a comparative paper on the conceptualisation and measurement of poverty amongst women in Sri Lanka, and (b) to assist and advise on the incorporation of gender issues in the Institute of Policy Studies' medium and short-term programmes on employment and poverty alleviation.

ILO, Geneva, July - August 1988

Consultant, International Labour Office (ILO), Geneva, to prepare on overview paper On Women's Access to Land in Asia.

Institute of Social Studies Advisory Service (ISSAS) October 1987 - March 1988.

Consultant, Sri Lanka Project of ISSAS and the Ministry of Finance, The Netherlands, to prepare a paper on The Role of Women in Employment Generation Strategies: A Comparative Study of the South Asian Experience.

FAO, Rome, September 1986 - March 1987.

Consultant, to prepare a research paper on Women's Access to Land as Owners and Workers: A Stocktaking for Five Asian Countries (India, Indonesia, Thailand, The Philippines, China).

FAO, Rome, August 1985 - March 1986.

Programme Officer (at P4 level) in the Women in Agricultural Production and Rural Development Service; Human Resources, Institutions and Agrarian Reform Division.

FAO, Rome, November 1985.

Member (representing FAO) of Tripartite Evaluation Mission (FAO, SIDA, Government of Sri Lanka) to review the project on Social-Economic Development of Plantation Women Workers and Families Through Community Action for Disadvantaged Rural Women in Sri Lanka.

FAO, Rome, July 1985.

Consultant to prepare a research paper on Women and Landlessness for the Expert

Consultation on Landlessness, Rome, October 1985.

IDRC, New Delhi, March - April 1985.

Consultant to write a report on alternative to education in India.

ILO, Geneva, February - March 1984.

External Collaborator in the Rural Employment Policies Branch to contribute to the formulation of a series of research projects on the theme of Women and Land and to write a research paper providing an analytical framework for this project.

King's College, Cambridge, UK, 1975 - 1976

Research Assistant at King's College Research Centre

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, 1972 - 1973.

Research Assistant on a Research Project sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research.

Publications

Doctoral dissertation: *Literacy, Learning and Living: A Case Study of the Educational Process in Rural Kashmir*, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK, January 1983.

Books and monographs

Wazir, R. and Auma Okwany (eds.) (2016), *Changing Social Norms to Universalize Girls' Education in East Africa: Lessons from a Pilot Project*, Garant, Antwerp-Apeldoorn..

Wazir, R and Nico van Oudenhoven (2006), *Newly Emerging Needs of Children: An Exploration*, Garant, Antwerp.

Wazir, R (2002) *Getting Children out of Work and into School: MV Foundation*, MV Foundation, Secunderabad.

Wazir, R. (ed) (2000) *The Gender Gap in Basic Education: NGOs as Change Agents*, Sage, New Delhi.

Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (eds) (1998) *Child Sexual Abuse: What Can Governments Do: A Comparative Investigation Into Policy Instruments Used in Belgium, Germany, Britain, The Netherlands, Norway*, Kluwer Law International, The Hague.

Published papers and book chapters

Wazir, R. (2016), "Gendering Universality: MV Foundation's approach to Overcoming Barriers to Girls' Education" in Wazir, R. and Auma Okwany (eds.), *Changing Social Norms to Universalize Girls' Education in East Africa: Lessons from a Pilot Project*, Garant, Antwerp.

Wazir, R. and Ashwani Saith , (2015), "Towards Recognizing Child Wellbeing in India: The Need for a Double Paradigm Shift" in A.K. Shiva Kumar, Preet Rustagi and Ramya Subrahmanian (eds.), *India's Children: Essays in Social Policy*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi.

Wazir, R. and Ashwani Saith (2010), "From Poverty to Well-being: Alternative Approaches to

- the Recognition of Child Deprivation in India”, IHD-UNICEF Working Paper Series on Children of India: Rights and Opportunities, UNICEF, New Delhi.
- Wazir, R. and Ashwani Saith (2010), “Towards Conceptualizing Child Wellbeing in India: The Need for a Paradigm Shift”, *Child Indicators Research*, Volume 3, Issue 3, pp. 385 – 408.
- Wazir, R. (2008), “Newly Emerging Needs of Children: Towards Widening the Policy Agenda in South Asia”, *Indian Journal of Human Development*, Vol. 1, No. 3.
- Wazir R., (2008), “Dissolution and Dispersal: the Impact of Modernity and Conflict on the Pandas of Kashmir Valley”, in Aparna Rao (ed.) *The Valley of Kashmir: the Making and Unmaking of a Composite Culture?*, Manohar, New Delhi.
- Wazir, R. (2004) “Pathways from Child Labour to Education: A Selective Review of NGO Approaches” in G.K.Lieten, Ravi Srivastava and Sukhdeo Thorat (eds), *Small Hands in South Asia: Child Labour in Perspective*, Manohar, New Delhi.
- Wazir, R., Nico van Oudenhoven and Shanti George (2003) “Foster Care Beyond the Crossroads: Lessons from an International Comparative Analysis”, *Childhood*, 10(3), August.
- Wazir, R. (2002) “No to Child Labour, Yes to Education: The Unfolding of a Grassroots Movement in Andhra Pradesh”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Special Issue on Child Labour, Vol. XXXVII, No. 52, December 28, 2000-January 3, 2003.
- Wazir, R. (2002) “Eliminating Child Labour: Do NGO Interventions add up to a Strategy?” *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, Special Issue on Child Labour, Vol. 45, No. 3.
- Wazir, R. (2002) “Some Reflections on Child Labour in Jodhpur District”, *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, Vol. 9, No. 1.
- Wazir, R. (2001) “Early Childhood Care and Development in India: Some Policy Issues” in Mary Daly (ed), *Carework - the Quest for Security*, ILO, Geneva.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1998) "Partnership: A Development Strategy for Children", *Action Research in Family and Early Childhood*, Monograph, No 9/1998. UNESCO, Paris.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1998) "Increasing the Coverage of Social Programmes", *International Social Science Journal*, No.155, March.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1998) "Replicating Social Programmes: Approaches, Strategies and Conceptual Issues", *MOST Working Paper*, UNESCO, Paris.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1997) "Partnership: A Development Strategy for Children", *Asian Dialogue No 5*, Redd Barna-Asia.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1997) “Increasing Coverage of Programmes for Children” in M. Hanrahan and B. Prinsen (ed) *Community Health, Community Care, Community Support*, NIZW/MIM Cooperative, Utrecht.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1996) "Partnerships for Children: A review of Redd Barna's Programme in Thailand", *Asian Dialogue No 4*, Redd Barna, Thailand
- Wazir, R. (1994) Review of Robert Myers, *The Twelve Who Survive: Strengthening Programmes of Early Childhood Development in the Third World*, London and New York: Routledge, 1992 in *Development and Change*, Vol. 25, No. 2, April.
- Wazir, R (1985) "Women, Land and Agricultural Production: A Tentative Framework", excerpted in *Women at Work*, No.1, ILO, Geneva.

Technical Reports and unpublished conference papers

- Wazir, R. and Ashwani Saith (2010) “Universalizing Child Rights: A Review of MV Foundation’s Achievements and Future Directions”, MV Foundation, Andhra Pradesh.

- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (2008) "Newly Emerging Needs of Children: An Exploratory Concept", paper presented at the conference on Universalising Social Security in Asia, 17-18 February, New Delhi, India.
- Wazir, R. (2007), "Replicating the MV Foundation Approach in Madhya Pradesh: Reflections on an Innovative NGO/Government Partnership", prepared at the request of MV Foundation and the Government of Madhya Pradesh.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (2005), "Child Rights Learning Initiatives", Report of a mission to Vietnam to develop a comprehensive capacity building strategy for Plan Vietnam staff and partners, March.
- Wazir, R. (2004), "Report of the International Conference 'Out of Work and Into School: Children's Right to Education as a Non-Negotiable'", 2-5 November, Hyderabad, India for "Stop Child Labour: School is the Best Place to Work Campaign".
- Wazir, R. (2003), "Proposal for Improving Access to Quality Education for Girls in Shahrstan District of Urozgan Province", Report of a mission to Afghanistan for Novib, July.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (2003), "Now the Children Speak Up", Report of an evaluation mission to assess "Children at Risk: Child Migration and Child Labour" – a joint project of Plan Nepal and CWIN, Kathmandu for Plan Netherlands, May.
- Wazir, R. (2002), "Child Labour Policies of Selected International Agencies: Review and Recommendations", Commissioned by FNV/HIVOS/NIC, The Netherlands.
- Wazir, R. (2001), "Pathways from Child Labour to Education: A Selective Review", paper presented at the IDPAD Seminar on Child Labour in South Asia, New Delhi 15-1 October.
- Wazir, R., Shanti George and Nico van Oudenhoven (2001), "Foster Care Beyond the Crossroads: Lessons from an International Comparative Analysis" prepared for the 12th IFCO Biennial International Conference, Veldhoven, The Netherlands 15-20 July.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (2001) "Early Childhood Care and Development in India: Policy Perspectives", paper presented at the workshop on "Women Workers: An Agenda for the Future", 19-20 March, New Delhi, organised by the Study Group on Women Workers and Child Labour, National Commission on Labour.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (2001), "ECD in Macedonia: Scenarios for Policy, Programme Development and Practice", Report of a Fact-Finding Mission for Unicef, Macedonia, July 2001.
- Wazir, R. (2000) "Child Sexual Abuse in Global Perspective: Key Issues", Paper presented at the Seminar on Child Sexual Abuse, Vaestoliitto – Family Federation of Finland, Helsinki, 1 November.
- Wazir, R. (1999) "Report of Education Project Identification Mission to Pakistan", NOVIB, April.
- Wazir, R. (ed.) (1999) "Miles to Go: NGO Responses to the Gender Gap in Basic Education in India", (ed.), Report to GOM, Oegstgeest.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1998) "Access to Early Childhood Development: Strategies for Enhancing Social Integration", Paper for the European Policy Conference on Early Childhood Education as a Structural Approach to Integrating Children and Families at Risk: A Challenge for Policy Makers, Amsterdam, 23-24 April.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1998) "Early Childhood Development: Trends and Likely Scenarios", Paper prepared for the Expert Meeting on Early Childhood Development, Utrecht, 22 April.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1997) "Early Childhood Development and Social

Integration: The Mediterranean Experience", Paper prepared for the Expert Meeting on Health and Social Welfare in the Euro-Mediterranean Region, The Hague, 9 - 11 December.

- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1996) "Exploring Partnership", Background paper for the Redd Barna Asia Seminar on Partnership, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 7-9 November.
- Wazir, R, Nico van Oudenhoven and Tone Lauvdal (1996) "Partners in Community Development: Lessons Learnt from Redd Barna-Thailand's Community Development Programme", Redd Barna, Thailand.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1996) "Replicating Youth Programmes: Approaches, Strategies and Conceptual Issues" International Youth Foundation.
- Wazir, R. and Nico van Oudenhoven (1996) "Youth Policies and Programmes: Strategies for Internationalisation and Dissemination", Paper presented at the international conference "Challenge of Change - 3", Amsterdam 10-14 January, 1996, organised by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport.
- Wazir, R. (1988) "Women's Access to Land in Asia: An Overview", Paper prepared for the University of Zimbabwe/ILO Regional African Workshop on Women's Access to Land as a Strategy for Employment Promotion, Poverty Alleviation and Household Food Security, Harare, Zimbabwe, 17 - 21 October.
- Wazir, R. (1988) "Issues Concerning Women's Employment in South Asia: An Overview", Paper prepared for the Institute of Policy Studies Seminar on Employment, Colombo, 11 - 13 February.
- Wazir, R. (1987) "Women's Access to Land as Owners and Workers: A Stocktaking for Five Asian Countries (India, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, China)", ESHL/FAO, Rome, October.
- Wazir, R. (1985) "Women and Landlessness", ESH 805, FAO, Rome, September.
- Wazir, R. (1985) "Report on Alternatives in Education", IDRC, New Delhi.

Areas of expertise in research, action research and consultancy

1. Children and youth issues, including early childhood education, child sexual abuse and childhood poverty.
2. Formal and non-formal education, child labour.
3. Gender and development issues especially where they interface with children, education, child labour, childcare.
4. Programme design, development of country studies and strategic planning of country/regional programmes for children and youth.
5. Policy development, programme and project evaluation, NGO management and training.

Field experience: research, consultancy, missions

<i>Asia/Pacific</i>	Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam.
<i>Africa</i>	Kenya, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe.
<i>Caribbean</i>	Surinam.
<i>Europe/</i>	

North America Germany, Italy, Macedonia, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Ireland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain, UK, USA, Bulgaria.

Middle East Egypt, Jordan, Palestine.

Educational Record

- 1983 Ph.D. in Sociology, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK. Dissertation entitled *Literacy, Learning and Living: A Case Study of the Educational Process in Rural Kashmir*.
- 1975 M.A. in Sociology, The Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University. First class.
- 1969 B.A., Sacred Heart College, Punjab University. First class.
- 1966 Higher Secondary, Presentation Convent, Srinagar. First class.

Professional Affiliations

Member, Project Committee of the HOB Programme (Programma Samenwerking Nederlandse Hogescholen met Onderwijsinstellingen in Ontwikkelingslanden ten behoeve van het Lager Onderwijs) of NUFFIC, 1998-2000. This committee was involved in developing policy and making decisions on projects submitted to the programme for funding.

Member, Dutch National Advisory Committee of the Indo Dutch Programme on Alternatives in Development (IDPAD), 2001-2007.

Member, External Reference Group, PARTOS, 2003 onwards. The External Reference Group consists of independent experts who oversee and advise on the quality and process of programme evaluations conducted by the Dutch co-financing agencies.

Languages

Fluent in English, Hindi, Urdu, Kashmiri (mother tongue); some French, Dutch.

Contact Details

Office: International Child Development Initiatives, Hooglandse Kerkgracht 17, 2312 HS Leiden, The Netherlands.

Tel: +31-71-5127420

Web: www.ICDI.nl

Home: Van Boetzelaerlaan 34, 2581 AK The Hague, The Netherlands.

Mobile: +31(0)642212841.

9C Anand Lok, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi, 110049, India.

Mobile: +91-9717155847.

Email: rekha.wazir@gmail.com; rekha@xs4all.nl