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## CURRICULUM VITAE

<b>NAME</b>	<b>SAM BICKERSTETH</b>
<b>NATIONALITY</b>	British
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	English: Mother tongue Spanish: Good

Sam provides strategic advice to international development organisations on livelihoods, forestry, agriculture, climate, environment, financial inclusion, planetary health research and development. He has a deep understanding of political economy and institutional change through 30 years field, headquarters, senior executive and advisory roles across public, private, research and NGO sectors in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Strong experience in leadership, design, financing and implementation of research and policy programmes for UK government, Oxfam, PwC and Oxford University engaging multiple international stakeholders.

Chief Executive at Opportunity International and formerly CEO, Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) and Director of the Rockefeller Foundation Economic Council on Planetary Health. Research Associate at Oxford Martin School and University of Oxford Smith School of Enterprise and Environment

### QUALIFICATIONS

M.Sc. Agricultural Economics – Oxford University

BA (Hons) in Geography- Oxford University

Leadership programmes (CPMS, Leaders Quest)

### EMPLOYMENT

2020                    **Chief Executive, Opportunity International**

CEO of Opportunity International UK, a leading NGO supporting financial inclusion and enterprise for the poor with focus on African smallholder farmers, micro-enterprises, education and refugees. Leading UK and global team in strategy, programme development and fund raising.

2018-2019 **Executive Secretary, Rockefeller Foundation Economic Council on Planetary Health**

Coordinated global report to investigate the economic and policy case for planetary health – a new multi-disciplinary approach that brings together human and ecosystem science, public health, economics and policy. Built framework and team of global experts from Oxford University's Martin School for a Council made up of world leaders from business, government, international organisations, civil society and academia (including former heads of state and UN heads).

Commissioned economic policy and governance analysis and synthesis with experts on climate, natural capital, technology development, trade and finance, conservation, public health, agriculture and other areas across University of Oxford and other global academic centres. Development of specific research and synthesis papers around biodiversity, planetary health finance, sanitation, flooding and oceans. Fellow of Oxford Martin School and adviser to Wellcome Trust.

2011-to 2018 **Chief Executive, Climate and Development Knowledge Network**

Built CDKN as leading international climate and development knowledge hub. Coordinated £130m multidonor research and advisory fund working through southern NGOs, in-country teams, and partners across Asia, Africa and Latin America financing 1000 projects with think-tanks and research, consulting and policy institutions. Key achievements include:

- Policy, systemic and programmatic change in 30 countries (and sub-national governments) including national climate strategies and action plans plus 10 NDCs submitted to Paris COP
- Successfully supporting developing country voice and groups in the international climate negotiations and Paris Agreement.
- Establishment and effective delivery of results focussed resilience programmes in over 20 cities and 13 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia.
- Knowledge management innovation (eg Climate Knowledge Brokers, climate games); website visited by over 1 million of whom 50% were from the South. Highly rated derivative IPCCs publications.
- Climate compatible policy guidelines developed for water sector, agriculture, DRR and REDD+.
- Handing over CDKN to developing country NGO leadership.

2010-11 **Senior Policy Adviser (Agriculture and Climate Change), DFID**

Commissioned research on agriculture and climate change including on agriculture induced deforestation; set up International Commission on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change; led Agriculture and Climate Day at Cancun COP16 in partnership with World Bank, CGIAR/CCAFS and farmers unions.

2006-2010 **Head of Programme Policy, Oxfam GB**

Led Oxfam's global technical advisory, research, publications and learning team of 50 global advisers, researchers and communications experts supporting work on agricultural development, livelihoods and markets, climate adaptation, health, gender and governance. Global Food Policy lead for Oxfam during 2008 global food crisis. Sustainable Livelihoods Strategy designed for Oxfam's rural development programmes. Women's livelihoods empowerment programme in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

2005-2006                    **Deputy Head of DFID Mozambique**

Developed multi donor Joint Assistance Strategy in partnership with UN. Led preparation of Country Assistance Programme and delivery of food security, humanitarian and conflict management, social development and DFID systems

2002-2005                    **Head of DFID Bolivia**

Strategic leadership and management of DFID Bolivia including governance grants with World Bank and civil society voice programmes plus sectoral programmes in health and agriculture. Led international budget support donor group in partnership with government. Developed poverty reduction programmes on health, human rights and agriculture addressing inequality and governance crisis.

1999-2002                    **Senior Livelihoods Adviser, DFID Nepal**

Designed and established ten year, conflict resilient Livelihoods and (Community) Forestry Programme; forest governance planning as Chair of Donor Forestry Group. Restructured UK agricultural research assistance and establishment of Hill Agricultural Research Programme

1992-99                      **Natural Resources, Environment and Rural Livelihoods Adviser, DFID/ODA**

Advice to water resources and agricultural research programmes and national research systems in Pakistan, Egypt, Namibia, Ghana, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, and UK Overseas Territories. Co-designed DFID's Renewable Natural Resources Research Strategy; responsible for UK support to CGIAR institutions in Africa and Middle East; established Socio-Economic Research Programme; co-established conceptual framework for DFID's Sustainable Livelihoods Approach.

1988 -1992                    **Senior socio-economic research officer at Natural Resources Institute**  
with focus on cotton pest management and post-harvest grain systems in West Africa and Egypt. Economic appraisal of cotton pest research programme Paraguay. Designed and implemented research programme on economics of cotton pest management at Central Cotton Research Institute, Multan, Pakistan

1986-88                      **Associate Professional Officer, ODA – European Union Delegation to Sudan;**

Design of major programme of assistance to refugees and design of National Food Security Strategy

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## **EXTERNAL ROLES**

Honorary Research Associate, Smith School of Environment and Enterprise, University of Oxford

Adviser to House of Commons International Development Committee on Climate Finance

Adviser to Wellcome Trust One Planet One Health programme

Chair of Low Emissions Development Strategies Global Partnership (2012-14)

Strategic Adviser to LSE/Leeds University Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy

Advisory Board Member, University of Durham Institute of Hazard Risk and Resilience

Adviser to UK Government Foresight Project on Global Food and Farming Futures 2010-11

Trustee, Windle Trust International

Trustee, INTRAC – International NGO Research and Training Centre

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## COUNTRIES OF WORK EXPERIENCE

Long term experience in Mozambique, Sudan, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bolivia. In addition, regular assignments across Latin America (including Colombia, Peru and Brazil), Asia (including India) and Africa (including Ethiopia, Uganda, Ghana, Rwanda)

### Publications

M Pongsiri, S Bickersteth et al October 2019 Planetary Health: from concept to decision action. Lancet Planetary Health Vol 3

T Pienkowski, S Bickersteth and EJ Milner-Gulland May 2019 Evidencing Links between Biodiversity and Health: A Rapid Review with a Water Quality Case Study. A report from the Rockefeller Foundation Economic Council on Planetary Health

J Cole, S Bickersteth July 2018 What's planetary about health? An analysis of topics covered in The Lancet Planetary Health's First Year: Lancet Planetary Health

P Carron, D Nabarro, S Bickersteth et al June 2018 Food systems for sustainable development: proposals for a profound four-part transformation August 2018, Agronomy for Sustainable Development 38:41

M Dupar, S Bickersteth et al (2017): Mainstreaming Climate Compatible Development

Aboubacar Traore & Sam Bickersteth (2011) Addressing the challenges of agricultural service provision: the case of Oxfam's Strategic Cotton Programme in Mali, International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability, 9:1, 82-90

J Pretty, S Bickersteth et al: The Top 100 questions of importance to the future of global agriculture November 2010; International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability 8(4)

J S Bickersteth (1989): Donor Dilemmas in Food Aid; the case of Wheat in Sudan; Food Policy 15,3

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