

Curriculum Vitae

Noel Sampson, M.Sc.



Nationality: Nicaraguan
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Bio – Master in International Cooperation and Urban Development with professional experience in Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and Latin America. Noel has implemented a series of development projects in the most deprived communities in Nicaragua with Bridges to Community. Additionally, he conducted a research to improve climate change resilience of poor urban families in Vietnam. He supported the UN-HABITAT office in Mongolia on slum upgrading, worked with Campus in Camps in the Palestinian refugee camps in the West Bank, and supported the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva, Switzerland. Graduated from the University of Geneva (Switzerland), TU Darmstadt (Germany) and the National University of Engineering (Nicaragua), Noel holds a first degree on architecture, is Nicaragua Regional Associate of the Boston-based Affordable Housing Institute (AHI), co-founder of Emerge.

- AREAS OF WORK**
- Project and Program Management
 - Urban Development, Housing and Planning
 - Development Cooperation
 - Climate Change and Urban Resilience

WORK EXPERIENCE

- February 2018 - present **Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO). European Commission. ECHO LAC Regional Office, Managua, Nicaragua.**
Programme Assistant for Central America and the Caribbean
- Appraisal, monitoring and evaluation of projects, including financial assessment of proposals.
 - Advises on the operational capacity of implementing partners.
 - Draft reports on the humanitarian situation, including any political, economic and security events relevant to the analysis of the humanitarian situation in the country/region.
 - Carry on monitoring missions in countries of Central America and the Caribbean.
 - Participates in the event of an emergency response.
 - Ensures communications with ECHO's partners.
 - Liaises with local authorities and institutions, as delegated and appropriate.
- March - June 2017 **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC. Managua, Nicaragua.**
Urban Development Consultant
Prospective study in intermediate cities in Nicaragua to explore potential areas of work of the Swiss Cooperation on urban development and management.
- Organization of workshops, focal groups and interviews with local municipalities and housing and urban development actors in Nicaragua.
 - Analysis of development potentials of small and intermediate cities in Nicaragua.
 - Contribute on the design of the SDC's new program on intermediate cities with a horizon of 8-12 years.
- July 2015 - current **Emerge S.A. Managua, Nicaragua. www.emer geni.com**
Co-founder and Director
Emerge is a company with the mission to transform emerging cities and communities in Nicaragua and Latin America currently facing rapid urbanization and the impacts of climate change. Duties and accomplishments:
- Program design and implementation of Incuba, the Emerge Business Incubator.
 - Lead the economic, operational, administrative and strategic activities of the company in Nicaragua.
 - Explore the formation of strategic alliances with local and regional actors in the market areas of the company including cooperation with AECOM Inc.
 - Human resources management and team formations for the delivery of services of the company.

- Develop the proposal Managua Vertical: Guidelines for a compact, sustainable and resilient Managua.
- Elaboration of the Disaster Risk Management Plan for the UNESCO World Heritage Site Ruins of Leon.

October 2012 - current **Affordable Housing Institute AHI**. *Managua, Nicaragua. www.affordablehousinginstitute.org*
Nicaragua Regional Associate (Former Regional Analyst)

- Liaising with housing sector actors in Nicaragua.
- Mapping of actors of the affordable housing sector in the country.
- Analysis of services, impacts and business models of the affordable housing sector.
- Contribute to the elaboration of the concept note of a Home Improvement Finance Entity for Nicaragua.

October 2014 to January 2015 **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe UNECE**. *Geneva, Switzerland. www.unece.org*
Housing and Land Management.

Duties and accomplishments:

- Support the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE Region 2014-2020.
- Write the concept note of the Coastal Cities Initiative: for resilient human settlements in coastal areas in the ECE region.
- Organize the Workshop "Building resilient communities through urban planning and the integration of the Natural Sciences" held on 13/Jan/2015 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Assist in the organization of meetings, including the first meeting of the Task Group on Urban Planning.

December 2013 to March 2014 **CAMPUS IN CAMPS** /UNRWA. *West Bank, Palestine. www.campusincamps.ps*
Project Activator

Campus in Camps is an educational and urban development program aimed to facilitate the debate on the current status of Palestinian refugee camps and translate them into practice through community-driven urban and architectural interventions. Duties and accomplishments:

- Project management, design, facilitating engagement of participants and beneficiaries.

April to July 2013 **UN-HABITAT**. *Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.*

Urban Development Intern

- Support the ADB Ulaanbaatar Urban Services And Ger Area Development Investment Program.
- Technical assistance, urban planning, office support, document drafting, climate change urban resilience and community mapping.

January 2010 to January 2013 **Bridges to Community**. *Siuna (RAAN), Nindiri, Masaya and Managua; Nicaragua.*
Built Environment Projects Responsible (Consultant)

Various projects: sustainable architecture, built environment, climate change adaptation, housing, WASH and community development projects. Portfolio of projects available [here](#).

- Architectural design, project management, construction management, supervision and reporting, volunteer's coordination.

March 2006 to October 2009 **Centro de Estudios y Promoción Social CEPS**. *León, Nicaragua. www.cepsnicaragua.org*
Project Consultant

- Various projects, including Project of Support of Farmer Trading and Food Security in the Municipality of La Paz Centro: Duties and accomplishments:
- Project management, technical assistance, architectural design supervising and reporting

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE**
2015

- **Facilitator and professor of the Course Public-Private Partnerships in Housing and Urban Development Projects**. Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería UNI. Hours-class: 24 hours

EDUCATION
2015

University of Geneva (UNIGE). *Geneva, Switzerland*
Specialization Certificate in Assessment and Management of Geological and Climate Related Risk (CERG-C).

- 2014 **Technischen Universität Darmstadt (TUD)**. *Darmstadt, Germany*
Master of International Cooperation and Urban Development. MUNDUS URBANO.
- 2014 **Universitat Internacional de Catalunya (UIC)**. *Barcelona, Spain*
Master of International Cooperation: Sustainable Emergency Architecture. MUNDUS URBANO.
- 2007 **Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería (UNI)**. *Managua, Nicaragua*.
Architect (Bachelor Degree)

SKILLS & COMPETENCES

- Organizational and managerial skills: Leadership (coordinating up to 20 team members)
- Experience and knowledge on project cycle management
- Cultural sensitivity gained by working on different international contexts in multicultural teams.
- Software skills: Full proficiency with Microsoft Office programs: MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, MS Project, Google Docs, WordPress, basic HTML, web edition, AutoCAD, Creative Suite CS3

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Spanish (mother tongue). Proficiency: Speaking (native) – Reading (native) – Writing (native)
- English. Proficiency: Speaking (fluent) – Reading (fluent) – Writing (fluent)

TRAININGS

- 2016 **Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative (YLA)**. Initiative of the U.S. Department of State, implemented by the Meridian International Center. Washington, D.C. USA.
- 2014 **Young Planning Professionals Workshop: REDEVELOPING THE MOSCOW EXHIBITION CENTER (VDNH)**. ISOCARP and Moscow Urban Forum. *Moscow, Russia*.
- 2012 **Urban Development Workshop of Yangtze-River-Delta**.
Tongji University and TU Darmstadt. *Shanghai, China*.
- 2009 **Management Course for Development Practitioners**.
MDF Training & Consultancy. *Ede, The Netherlands*
- 2009 **Shelter Design & Development**.
Lund University. *Lund, Sweden, and Manila, The Philippines*

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2017 Professional Fellow of the Young Leaders of the America's Initiative (YLA). United States of America.
- 2011 Erasmus Mundus Master Program Scholarship for Academic Excellency. European Commission. *EU*.
- 2009 Netherlands Fellowship Program NFP. NUFFIC. *The Netherlands*.
- 2009 Advanced International Training Fellowship. Swedish International Development Agency. *Sweden*.

WRITING AND PUBLICATIONS

- **"Directrices para la Managua compacta, sostenible y resiliente: experiencias de gestión urbana, densificación y resiliencia de la Ciudad de Bogotá"**. Universidad Centro Americana (UCA) and Urban Managua. Managua, Nicaragua. 2015.
- **"Chinatown: the real enclave in the imaginary limit"**. *City plus online magazine*". Darmstadt, Germany. 2014.
<http://www.citiesplus.org/post/77902133780/chinatown-the-real-enclave-in-the-imaginary-limit>
- **"The race against winter in the slums of Ulaanbaatar"**. Affordable Housing Institute Global Blog. 05/15/2013. <http://ahiglobal.wordpress.com/2013/05/15/the-race-against-winter-in-the-slums-of-ulaanbaatar/>

- ***"Pro-poor Housing Adaptation to Climate Change in Countries of the Tropics: Case Studies of Housing Resilience in Nicaragua and Vietnam"***. Master Thesis. 07/2013.
- ***"Cohousing y la ruptura del urbanismo del miedo"***. El Nuevo Diario (newspaper). Managua, Nicaragua. 2009. <http://www.elnuevodiario.com.ni/opinion/40179-cohousing-ruptura-urbanismo-miedo/>

**INTERNATIONAL
EXPOSURE**

Israel and Palestinian Territories (2014), Russia (2014), Colombia (2014), Switzerland (2014-2015), Mongolia (2013), Vietnam (2012), Spain (2012-2013), China (2012), Germany (2011-2012), The Philippines (2010), European Union (2009) and Nicaragua (home country).