

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jon Burns

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PROFILE (BIO)

Current position: Circle Head Inclusive Economic & Systems Development (IED Circle)

Education:

MSc Management (with Economics), Manchester Metropolitan University. 1984

PhD Organisational Behaviour, University of the Witwatersrand. 2003

Post Graduate Coaching and Facilitation Certificate. Henley Business School. Reading University. 2018

Post Graduate Certificate in Team, Board & Systemic Coaching. Henley Business School. Reading University. 2021

Languages: English (Fluent), Italian (Basic), Hungarian (Basic), French (Basic) and Twi (Basic)

Profile statement:

Jon trained as an economist and a practitioner in organisation development. He has 35 years' experience working on organisation development, policy dialogue, trade competitiveness and promotion, private sector development, labour market reform, executive and team coaching and enterprise development policies and programmes. Jon is the Circle Head for Inclusive Economic and Systems Development within the P&S Domain, and CEO & Executive Director of The Springfield Centre for Business in Development.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Jon has undertaken several systemic change assignments in eastern Europe, sub-Saharan Africa, and the Indo-Pacific region on topics and products including, garments, cash crops, fruits, coffee, tea, mining, technology, construction, light manufacturing, and youth employment. He was the Chief Technical Adviser on a high-profile sector policy dialogue programme, where he took direct responsibility for a large team developing international policy dialogues in trade, banking and financial systems, employment (youth and women), tax and customs, transport infrastructure, health, and welfare (social services), energy, science and technology, spatial and urban development, agriculture value chains and macro-economic development.

He has worked extensively on trade and private sector enabling initiatives, including access to finance, enterprise systems, technology incubation, and entrepreneurship development. He has also worked on public and private sector reform programmes with many development partners, including SDC, SECO, UK ODA, USAID, Danida, Sida, the Dutch Government, GiZ, ILO, UNDP, UNIDO, EIB, EBRD, AfDB, ADB, IBRD, IFC and the EU. He has advised several regional trade secretariats, including SADC, COMESA, EAC, and ACP as well as national governments, INGOs, foundations, trusts, national banks, and private sector organisations, (Sainsbury's, Wellcome Foundation, Shell UK, BP, Microsoft, Virgin, and Chevron), on the design, development and delivery of private sector policies, programmes, and projects.

In the last 35 years, Jon has worked on 95 programmes and projects in 48 countries. He has advised on the design and implementation of more than 30 multi-disciplinary and multi-annual, and multimillion dollar programmes. These include business finance and business advocacy, enterprise ecosystem, global trade, and value chain programmes. Jon has also advised on sustainable economic growth. This includes advising on national/regional policy and regulatory frameworks, producing national and regional development strategies, establishing support and development agencies, designing, and setting up national seed capital, venture capital, equity and loan schemes for businesses, strategic advice to BMOs and regional trade organisations. He has provided direct support to joint venture companies and has been actively involved in the restructuring and privatisation of state-owned enterprises. He is a past adviser to the UK government on private sector, innovation, finance, and trade issues. Recently he has been supporting the development of strategies for African and Asian Community Access Programmes and overseeing the implementation of a Regional Trade and Transport Infrastructure Gateway in southern Africa.

For the last 15 years, Jon has worked extensively at board level (Director, Managing Director and CEO) in several service providers to the international development community. He is a qualified executive and team coach and an accredited group facilitator. Over the past ten years he has coached several project and programme teams, team leaders and senior staff in development organisations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Institution: Swisscontact Date: 01.2023 – present	Position: Circle Head IED
Institution: The Springfield Centre for Business in Development Date: 01.2023 – present	Position: Director
Institution: The Springfield Centre for Business in Development Date: 06.2019 – 01.2023	Position: CEO and Executive Director
Institution: The Springfield Centre for Business in Development Date: 2015 – 2019	Position: Executive Director
Institution: Cardno Emerging Markets (UK), Oxford Date: 2014 – 2015	Position: Director: Europe & Africa
Institution: TDCA-F (Dialogue Facility), Pretoria, SA Date: 2011 – 2014	Position: Director and Chief Technical Adviser
Institution: WYG International, Nottingham, UK Date: 2008 – 2011	Position: Director
Institution: DAI Europe Ltd Date: 2006 – 2008	Position: Director
Institution: BEST AC Private Sector Advocacy Fund, Tanzania Date: 2004 – 2006	Position: Managing Director
Institution: Eurecna SpA, Venice, Italy Date: 2004 – 2004	Position: Deputy Managing Director
Institution: Godisa Trust for Technology and Innovation, Southern Africa Date: 2000 – 2004	Position: Director
Institution: Maxwell Stamp plc, London Date: 1996 – 2000	Position: Director
Institution: RIPA Training Ltd, London Date: 1994 – 1996	Position: Joint Managing Director
Institution: Coopers & Lybrand, London Date: 1989 – 1994	Position: Principal
Institution: Ghana Cooperative Bank, Accra, Ghana Date: 1986 – 1989	Position: Head of Small Business Lending (VSO)

Institution: Proctor & Gamble, New York, USA & Newcastle, UK
Date: 1983 – 1986

Position: Field & Brand Manager

REFERENCE PROJECTS – current projects

GLOBAL: Swiss Import Promotion Programme (SIPPO) training and coaching

Co-trainer and coach to the members of internal functions and country teams in SIPPO. Jon delivered delivering an eight-day training programme on market systems development and making trade markets work. This training is being augmented with follow-up coaching to participants and their teams in Colombia, Peru, Morocco, the Balkans, South Africa, Tunisia, Morocco, Vietnam, and Indonesia. *[2021 – ongoing]*

GLOBAL: Addressing Structural Constraints to Scaling Innovation in Healthcare and Welfare Services

Supporting Fondation Botnar’s initiative to improve the delivery of the third United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG3). Providing project management support and facilitation of the SDG3 SCS Working Group. Investigating means of better provision in primary healthcare and welfare services to increase the resilience of health systems. Researching and testing to provide solutions that address the structural constraints to scaling innovation in national health and welfare systems. Sharing findings and learnings through case studies guidelines to facilitate change through amplified solutions which enhance the ability of in-country actors to achieve and maintain scalable innovation. *[2022-ongoing]*

EAST AFRICA: Team Coaching and Organisation Support, Gatsby Africa

Leading the evaluation of an internal change programme for Gatsby Africa and its programmes. The work includes a review of structure and staff roles and functions in Gatsby Africa’s Strategy and Learning Team and advising and supporting organisational redesign and internal good practice for future evaluations. *[2021 – ongoing]*

MALAWI, NEPAL, UGANDA: International Technical Adviser: Investment on the Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA) programme.

Supporting the strategy and advising the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) on facilitating the flow of commercial investment on the CASA programme. CASA is an FCDO flagship programme which aims to increase global investment in agribusinesses which trade with smallholders in equitable commercial relationships, increasing smallholders’ incomes and climate resilience. The programme helps agribusinesses to scale up and trade in larger commercial markets. *[2020 – ongoing]*

GEORGIA: Lead Adviser Business Support Services, Rural SME Development in Georgia for the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)

Leading the inception phase ‘deep dive’ into the Business Support Services systems available in Georgia which include topics such as financial literacy, business management capacities and service uptake for SDC’s Rural SMEs Development Project. The project seeks to increase rural income and employment through sustained access to finance for rural SMEs through both supply and demand-side interventions. The deep dive analysis is identifying constraints and is laying the foundations of intervention area identification and prioritisation of the project’s activities and strategies, which now includes market access interventions in four key sectors (manufacturing, construction, dairy and tourism). *[2020 – ongoing]*

ALBANIA: Addressing the Drivers and Enablers of Serious and Organised Crime in Kukes

Providing backstopping on MSD and advising the Swisscontact project team on their engagement with FCDO and the United Kingdom’s Home Office. *[2022 – ongoing]*

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION (E.G. PUBLICATIONS)

We Coach! Series: Libri Publishing: Contributor “The Complete Handbook of tools techniques, experiments, and frameworks for personal and team development” and Reviewer of the other books in the series.