

Nijat Garayev

With an academic background in Social Sciences, Political Economy, and Development, I have designed and implemented over 20 economic and community development projects and programs, some with impacts well beyond the welfare of the target group. I am aspiring to become a world-class subject-matter expert in the design, implementation, monitoring and assessment of change in organizations and societies.

Education

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, UK

MA in Political Economy & Development | 2012

Focus: theory and political economy of development; poverty and inequality; Industrial Policy; Systems of Innovation.

UTRECHT UNIVERSITY HONOURS COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF UTRECHT

BA (Hons) Social Sciences | 2011

Focus: Statistics; Economics; Law; Political Theory; International Relations.

Experience

GERMAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (GIZ) | Jan 2018 – present

Economic Participation of Internally Displaced Persons in South Caucasus

Advisor

- Supported the regional team in the development of outcomes and outputs, relevant indicators, assumptions and risks, and monitoring at the regional level;
- Developed projects implementation and resourcing strategy of the Azerbaijani component for institutional development, employability, business development, and community development;
- Managing stakeholder relations with the *State IDP Committee* and *Social Fund for Development of IDP*;
- Developed capacity development plan for the implementing experts and beneficiaries;
- Overseeing activities' implementation.

BP AZERBAIJAN GEORGIA TURKEY REGION | Aug 2016 – Jan 2018

Social Investment Team Leader

- Developed regional Social Investment Strategy and Procedures;
- Implemented a portfolio of 16 social change projects in education, income generation, environment and enterprise development with the value exceeding 5 mln USD;
- Successfully delivered six nationwide and community development projects;
- Established data collection, monitoring and outcome evaluation (M&E) system involving community liaison officers;
- Simplified procurement procedures reducing the duration from projects' design to initiation by 70%;
- Increased number of applications while reducing processing time due to optimized selection procedures and established ABC risks' management mechanism;
- Proposed updates for the contract template to increase control over the ethics and compliance risks;
- Developed a blended 30-day course and 7-day practical workshop on advanced methods of Social Impact Assessment and Post-program evaluation for the social investment practitioners, implementing partners and national experts.
- Established knowledge-management system for the team, as a result, all projects initiated under my leadership are being successfully run by the subsequent team;
- Established capacity development system for the implementing partners with performance markers.

GERMAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (GIZ) | Feb 2013 – Aug 2016

Private Sector Development in South Caucasus Regional Programme (PSDSC) Monitoring & Evaluation officer

- Conducted impact assessment for the program based on RBM methodologies;
- Established Excel / EIDOS-based M&E system on the Results Based Monitoring principles using Capacity Works tools.

Project officer for Increasing Income Generation Opportunities for the selected IDP communities' project

- Improved income (by 30%) of five Internally Displaced People (IDP) communities via increased production and productivity of beekeeping via value chain approach;
- Established broader networks between small and medium farmers and market distributors of agricultural products;
- Brought together public, private and civil society institutions for better cooperation on farm management;

Advisor on economic cooperation

- Assessed projected impact of the current Macroeconomic crisis on the GIZ programs in Azerbaijan;
- Assessed projected impact of the lifting of EU GSP + benefits for Azerbaijani agricultural exporters (applied partial equilibrium model to assess diversion to CIS market);
- Produced research on the legal status of the national and international NGO's in Azerbaijan;
- Developed communications and reporting structure between GIZ and relevant political/technical partners.

AZERBAIJAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS | Jan 2017 – present

Lecturer on Economic Development Theory, Microeconomics and Macroeconomics for master's degree students.

KHAZAR UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT | Sep 2012 – present

Development Economics, International Economics, and Revenue Management to Bachelors and Masters

- Taught on macroeconomic and trade models, industrial policy and poverty and income/ wealth inequality measurement;
- Delivered training on Identification and Management of Environmental and Social Risks in Extractive Industries funded by Natural Resource Governance Institute;
- Delivered lectures on Economic Diversification and Revenue Management supported by Revenue Watch Institute, The Eurasia Extractive Industries Knowledge Hub.

UNIBANK ACADEMY | A Mini-MBA initiative of Azerbaijani commercial bank | 2015 - 2017

Lecturer on microeconomics and macroeconomics to senior and mid-level managers.

AZERBAIJAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (AIDA) / MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Humanitarian Assistance officer | Aug–Oct 2012

- Developed international humanitarian aid provision policy of AIDA applying the best practices on the provision of emergency humanitarian assistance within the international legal & political framework;
- Organised capacity-building trainings for the Ministry staff.

UNDP Baku, Azerbaijan | Sep 2006 - Jan 2007

Senior Intern, projects

OL! AZERBAIJAN YOUTH MOVEMENT | Jul 2012 - Jun 2013

Project officer at Free Thought University (AFU)

- The FTU is an education center for the youth, where they gather, share experiences and gain knowledge in a free environment;
- Organized more than 300 interactive lectures with participation of up to 5,000 people;
- The website of the project won the Ambassadorial Award for Freedom of Expression over the Internet.

Research & consultancy

Caucasus Resource and Research Centre | Jun 29-30, 2014

Co-authored conference paper on the Methodology of Measurement of Social Inequality and digital access use in Azerbaijan

GIZ Azerbaijan | Mar – Jun, 2017

Consultant on baseline establishment / appraisal on the potential livelihood project on Internally Displaced Persons

Volunteerism / Social Activities

- International IEARN Conference (SOROS foundation) on the dialogue of cultures. Osaka, Japan | July 2003;
- Volunteer at American Councils in USA and Baku | 2006-2008;
- Voluntary lectures on awareness of the Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) on behalf of American Councils in the rural districts;
- Trainings by Transatlantic Institute of London, (on J. S. Mill and Liberalism, 2008)
- Trainings by International Republican Institute (Leadership and decision-making, May 2007);
- UN Security Council simulation conference held in Moscow (Moscow State University) | Apr 2007;
- UN ECOSOC simulation conference held in Maltepe Istanbul, Turkey | July 2007;
- UN General Assembly simulation conference held in Tbilisi State University, Georgia | Aug 2008;
- Conference on 'Security from Europe through Turkey to South Caucasus' (EU partnership programme). Tbilisi | Mar 2008;
- Contributed to the UN Security Council simulation conference (funded by UNDP office in Baku) in May 2008;
- Assistant of Military History teacher in Hillcrest High School-US | Jan-May 2006;
- C++ programmer and fundraiser (over 30.000 USD) of International Robotics Competition in Portland (Oregon) and Denver (Colorado) | spring, 2007;
- Black Sea Youth Summit (Organised by German Marshall Fund) in Istanbul | Nov 2-6, 2008.
- Directed the logistics team of the first Utrecht-nations Model UN, a three-day simulation conference | Jan-May 2009
- Organised Model UN simulation programme & conference of Amsterdam University UNISCA | October 2009-Jan 2010
- Organised two conferences at the Utrecht University Social Sciences department | Nov 2008 - Mar 2011

Skills

IT: Microsoft Office + Excel, SPSS, EIDOS + Linux platforms

Languages: Azerbaijani (Native); English (Fluent); Turkish (Fluent); Russian (Fluent in reading, good in writing and speaking);