

REPIM Curriculum Vitae – Sharon Hanson-Cooper

RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION & MANAGEMENT
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Name:	SHARON HANSON-COOPER
Date of birth:	12 September 1962
Nationality:	British
Qualifications:	Masters Degree in Development Management Post Graduate Diploma in Development Management Post Graduate Certificate in Social Policy Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy –UK (Admission as Chartered Accountant to CIPFA – March 1988) Association of Accounting Technicians Qualification obtained and Membership to the association June 1983
Languages:	English (mother tongue), French (basic) Albania (basic)
Countries of work experience:	UK, Albania, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Jordan, Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia, Zambia
Professional experience:	
2004 – present	Independent Consultants
2002 – 2004	District Auditor, Audit Commission, UK
2000 – 2002	Independent Consultants
1997 – 2000	District Auditor, Audit Commission, UK
1994 – 1997	Deputy Director Finance, Bolton MB Council
1990 – 1994	Assistant Director of Finance, Chorley BC
1988 – 1990	Audit Manager, Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte
1980 – 1988	Accountant, Accounts Assistant, Audit Assistant, Local Government / Municipalities (professional training)

Sharon Hanson-Cooper is a Public Sector Accountant with experience in analysing and evaluating financial procedures and systems with further qualifications in Development Management. She worked in senior positions in a UK local authority and has more than 30 years professional experience which includes 10 years in developing and transitional countries. She is experienced in project design, review and implementation. She has undertaken a number of assessment missions and has extensive experience of managing multi disciplinary teams of senior legal and financial experts.

Sharon has extensive experience of EU processes and EU pre accession requirements and benchmarks in the field of public finance, governance & anti corruption. Sharon has attended a PEFA assessment training course and a ‘Train the Trainers’ course in June 2008. Sharon was responsible for assessment of PFM systems applying the PEFA assessment model in Jordan and Sierra Leone. She

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was responsible for significant numbers of the budget cycle indicators in particular, those related to control during budget execution, internal audit, internal control systems, accounting systems and reporting, together with the parliamentary scrutiny and follow up of external audit reports. In addition she assessed PFM systems and public sector bodies in the UK using UK National Audit Office and Audit Commission assessment methodologies based on a structured indicator & assessment methodology similar to the PEFA approach. Sharon has worked on internal and external audit as well as governance issues in the Balkans as well as in Asia and Africa.

Highlights of Ms. Hanson-Cooper's career relating to FRAs are presented below
Sierra Leone – PEFA. As part of the REPIM team that carried out the 2010 Central government and Sub national PEFAs evaluated the status of financial reporting, internal audit and financial control, external audit and donor indicators.

Zambia – PEMFA. As part of the REPIM team that carried out the evaluation of the PEMFA project was responsible for assessment of internal audit and financial control and external audit components of the project.

Macedonia – Anti Corruption Adviser to the Office of the Prime Minister to provide advice on

- international standards, best practices and regional experience, encourage co-ordination and assist in monitoring progress against anti corruption indicators
- legislative drafting support on key anti corruption related laws
- responding to the EU benchmarks on corruption and facilitating strategic forums and activities in respect of chapters 5 (Procurement); Rule of Law covered by Chapters 23 & 24 (Judiciary and Justice, Freedom & Security) of the acquis which ensure co-ordination between the key stakeholders.
- establishment of a mechanism to follow up on the allegations and reports of corruption from the public
- advise and support the government in increasing its transparency and accountability in the field of public funds including facilitation of government , media and civil society roundtables
 - Advise the Vice PM (responsible for EU Integration)

Albania, Macedonia Kosovo Montenegro – SNV Dutch Development Organisation Regional Governance Adviser for the Balkans. Responsibility for the Governance Knowledge Network of 15 international and national professional advisers). This included development, delivery and quality assurance of SNV's governance related capacity building projects and methodologies in the Balkans. Generation and dissemination of information and linking this to SNV pro-poor, civil society & rural livelihood capacity building activities.

Country level line management responsibility for a team of 12 professionally qualified (civil society, forestry, agriculture, sustainable tourism and governance) advisers.

Donor aid co-ordination and harmonisation activities in relation to Governance. Ensuring synergy with the Government's national strategies such as social and economic development, PRSP, rural development

Albania – External Oversight and Anti-Corruption (Part time role – medium term expert to 2010) External oversight and anti-corruption institutions within the framework of a Rule of Law Project. Court Reform, Declaration of Assets of Senior Officials, Ombudsman / Media and NGO / civil society dimensions. Conflict of Interest issues in Procurement and at the Local Government Level.

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Kosovo – External Audit & Oversight Expert Situational assessment of the Office of the Auditor General’s Office, Component Lead for OAG Strategic Planning and Improvement of Oversight Functions in Kosovo

Jordan – Public Finance Expert – part of a team performing a Public Expenditure & Financial Assessment (PEFA) Assessment of Jordan’s public financial management systems

Albania – Chief of Party for the EU funded CARDS Project ‘Public Internal Financial Controls (PIFC)’ in the Ministry of Finance. Public finance capacity building project to assist the Ministry of Finance in the development of internal audit and financial management control systems, including the need to support the organizational change and human resource implications of these technical developments.

Albania – Key expert and Team Leader of an EU-funded external audit capacity building and training project to the Supreme Audit Institution.

Bangladesh – Expert on the Public Expenditure Management Project Facilitated the drafting of the Strategic Audit Plan 2003-2008 for the Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh to provide the framework for the SAI’s strategic direction. Facilitated the drafting of line ministry annual audit plans within the framework of the SAI Strategic Plan

UK – District Auditor Evaluation, Monitoring, Performance and Governance Assessments of local government bodies using statutory inspection, monitoring and review methodologies. Including techniques such as focus groups, surveys, field visits which included civil society groups, local business, public, youth groups and other public sector partners.

The overall evaluations assessed the entity’s strategic vision, strategic planning, fiscal policy issues, budgeting and monitoring framework; prioritization of activities; capacity (financial, human resources, IT technology, partnership working); strategic policy linkages.

Brussels / UK – Procurement Study for the NGO, ECHO.

Nigeria – Assessment of public sector strategic budgeting and accounting in support of a State and Local Government Reform programme including MTEF issues.

Bangladesh – Deputy Country Manager & Chief of Party of the Reforms in Budgeting and Expenditure Control Project (RIBEC) The RIBEC financial programme encompassed: improvements to budget, accounting, control and reporting systems development of the strategic financial management capacity of Government Ministries by supporting pilot units which produced financial & non financial managements reports supporting the Ministry of Finance with various GoB financial reporting requirements, including GFS and IMF data. IT systems development and training External audit developments

UK – District Auditor Responsible for all aspects of the statutory external audit (legal, financial, performance, governance, representations from civil society, and the annual accounts certification) of a large portfolio of local government clients. Client liaison with senior civil servants and politicians. Statutory audit role included responsibility for the financial, performance and governance audits of 24 large public sector organisations. Including review and reporting of ‘matters in the public interest’ as required. Line management responsibility for 25 professional staff. Member of District Audit’s Northern Region Management Board National role on CIPFA’s Professional Institute Council.

UK – Deputised for the Director of Finance as required, in a Department of 200

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staff and an organisation with a budget of over €1,000 million and a total number of employees of 11,000. Direct responsibility for 30 Finance Department staff. Responsible for an effective internal audit service of the Council's operations. Key role in the Strategic Planning & Resource Allocation Process (SPRAP) – the annual methodology used to review budget allocations, service and policy priorities and cross cutting issues, and set strategic fiscal policy.

Key role in Bolton's "10 Year Vision" strategic planning process. Lead by the Council but involved wide consultation with all sectors of the community, business, civil society groups etc. Preparation of innovative proposals (technical, financial, partnership aspects) in order for the municipality to secure additional government and private sector funds.

Professional support and advice to elected members and chief officers.