

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Denis D. R. DESGAIN

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Sex male | Date of birth 20/09/1975 | Nationality Belgian

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Denis Desgain is a motivated team worker and results-driven professional with a substantial track record in the design and implementation of climate/low-carbon development programs in developing countries (Latin America & the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia). Deep knowledge of international climate change negotiations, processes, and decisions related to the Transparency/NDC concepts. Experienced analyst of national climate change policies, institutional frameworks, and development, with technical knowledge and experience of different policy and GHG mitigation tools and methodologies. Working experience with international organizations and research partners in climate change mitigation. Also a strong track record in the management of international projects and in managing internal and external teams as well as establishing and maintaining partnerships with key program stakeholders internationally – private, government, NGOs, and donors.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Since March 2022

Head of Mitigation Analysis and Data Management Section UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (former UNEP DTU Partnership)

- Managing the Mitigation Analysis and Data Management Section. Managing a team of 13 people
- Research and capacity development on long term planning for climate change mitigation.

2019 - 2022

Head of Mitigation Analysis and Data Management Section UNEP DTU Partnership

- Managing the Mitigation Analysis and Data Management Section. Managing a team of 11 people
- Research and capacity development on long term planning for climate change mitigation.

2011 - 2019

Senior Adviser UNEP DTU Partnership

- Building capacities of national counterparts in developing countries, and developing tools and guidelines related to the development of MRV systems, Transparency framework, Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), Low Emissions Development Strategies.
- Coordinating national and global projects on mitigation and climate transparency.
- Design of climate change projects in developing countries supported by different bilateral and multilateral international donors (including GEF, UNEP, DANIDA).
- Lead coordinating partner and participation in international workshops and courses.

2005 - 2011

Programme Specialist United Nations Development Program (UNDP, Cuba Country Office)

- Coordination and supervision of the design, implementation, financial execution, and monitoring of projects in the fields of climate change.
- Building capacities of national counterparts on multiple aspects pertaining to effective projects/programs management.
- Mainstreaming of the environment and climate change issues in the different operating areas of the UNDP Cuba office.

- 2003 - 2005 **University of La Havana (Cuba)/Free University of Brussels (Belgium)**
Researcher
 - Microbiological and physical-chemical analysis of the Almendares water quality.
 - Project management between the University of La Havana and the Free University of Brussels

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 1998 - 2003 **PhD, Free University of Brussels, Belgium**
 - PhD in agronomical sciences and biotechnology
- 2001 - 2003 **Master in Life Sciences, Free University of Brussels, Belgium**
- 1993 - 1998 **Engineer in Agronomy, Free University of Brussels, Belgium**

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) French
Other language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Spanish	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Danish	B1	B2	B1	B1	B1

Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2 Proficient user
[Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

- Communication skills
 - Experienced conference speaker and training course instructor, author of several conference and working papers
- Organisational / managerial skills
 - Leadership and decision making (3 years of experience in managing a team of 11-13 experts in the field of climate change mitigation); Listening skills, Strategic thinking; Project management;

Digital competence

Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem solving
Proficient	Independent	Proficient	Proficient	Independent

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Relevant Publications and Guidelines

- Dhar S., Fenhann J. and D. Desgain, 2022. Net Zero Carbon Scenarios for Energy Sector in West Asia. Under publication.
- Dhar S. and D. Desgain, 2021. Making the Business Case for Climate Smart Investments: Guidelines for the Tourism Sector. Published by United Nations Environment Programme.
- Schletz M.C., Konrad S., Staun F. and D. Desgain, 2017. Taking stock of the (I)NDCs of developing countries: regional (I)NDC coverage of mitigation sectors and measures. Published by United Nations Environment Programme.
- Desgain D. and S. Sharma, 2016. Understanding the Paris agreement: analysing the reporting requirements under the enhanced transparency framework. Published by United Nations Environment Programme.
- Sharma S. and D. Desgain, 2015. Developing INDCs: A guidance note. Published by United Nations Environment Programme.
- Sharma S., Desgain D. and S. Sandbukt, 2015. Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action: Developing a Multi Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) process for prioritization of NAMAs. Published by United Nations Environment Programme.
- Hinostroza M., Desgain D., Perez Martín D., Carrera Doral W., and I. Relova Delgado, 2015. Analysis of grid emission, factors for the electricity sector in Caribbean countries.
- Sharma S. and D. Desgain, 2014. Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action: Understanding NAMA Cycle. Published by United Nations Environment Programme.
- Sharma S., Desgain D., Olsen K., Hinostroza M., Wienges S., Former C., Agyemang-Bonsu W., Cox S., Benioff R., Garavito S., and A. Guerrero, 2014. Linkages between LEDS - NAMA - MRV. Published by NAMA partnership.
- Sharma S. and D. Desgain, 2013. Understanding the concept of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA). UNEP Risø Center. ISBN: 978-87-550-3949-0

Selected Project Assignments

Start Date	Location	Description
09.2016 - present	Copenhagen	Global project coordinator for Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) project in 32 countries (UNOPS) Objective of Project: assisting developing country Parties to establish domestic MRV systems, and develop methodologies for monitoring impact of mitigation policies and actions
07.2015 - 12.2018	Copenhagen	Project coordinator for FIRM II - Facilitating Implementation and Readiness for Mitigation (DANIDA) Objective of project: assisting developing country Parties to identify and develop NAMAs and Low Carbon Development framework
02.2012 - 06.2015	Copenhagen + Morocco, Senegal	Country focal point for FIRM I - Facilitating Implementation and Readiness for Mitigation (DANIDA) Objective of project: assisting developing country Parties to identify and develop NAMAs and Low Carbon Development framework. Responsibilities included Assistance to Morocco and Senegal to develop 2 NAMA documents related to photovoltaic and biogas technologies. Development of templates and guidelines for the development of NAMA documents
08.2011 - 12.2019	Copenhagen + in country	Country focal point for the Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) Project Project (Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guinea, Haiti, Togo, Tunisia, Benin) Objective of the project: assisting developing country Parties to identify, analyse and prioritise technology needs for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Responsibilities include management and overseeing project implementation as well as in-country trainings on Technology Needs Assessment concept and methodology

Start Date	Location	Description
05.2015 - 05.2016	Copenhagen	<p>Country focal point for the Development of Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) project (Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Niger and Senegal)</p> <p>Objective of the project: assisting developing country Parties to design and develop their INDC. Support included development of templates and guidelines for the development of INDC documents, assistance to develop mitigation scenarios and develop INDC document, for their INDC and to develop their INDC document</p>
08.2011 - 02.2013	Copenhagen + Philippines	<p>Development of an MCA framework for NAMA prioritization in The Philippines.</p> <p>In-country training on NAMA concept and on the use of the MCA tool for NAMA prioritization.</p> <p>Analysis of the national mitigation framework, development of criteria and indicators and assistance to apply the MCA tool for prioritization of pre-selected NAMAs</p>