

Lodovica Tranchini

Dynamic and strategic senior leader with 12+ years of international experience in non-profit management, strategy execution, programme design, and multi-function team management across diverse geographies. Demonstrated success leading multi-stakeholder initiatives, driving transformation agendas, and aligning strategy and operations in complex environments. Direct country experience includes Bhutan, CAR, Chad, Gambia, Haiti, Libya, Malawi, Nepal, Niger, Senegal, Tunisia. Exceptional communicator, known for building trusted networks in complex, multicultural settings. Proven ability to influence and coordinate across organisational boundaries and with Executive Leadership. Fluent in English, French, and Italian.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director, Programme Development & Quality, Save the Children (Nepal/Bhutan) Feb 2023-Present

Save the Children is the leading INGO for children, with a budget of \$1.2 billion and presence in 60+ countries

- Provide strategic leadership for programme strategy, technical excellence, and MEAL across Nepal and Bhutan portfolios.
- Lead end-to-end proposal development processes, ensuring donor alignment and competitive positioning (\$30 million annual pipeline).
- Line manage a multidisciplinary team of 9+ national experts across Education, Health, Child Protection, Climate Change, T4D, GESI, MEAL, and Business Development. Remote support to Bhutan Country Office.
- Co-lead the Country Learning Agenda with the MEAL Manager, ensuring thought-leadership and linking to positioning plans and advocacy strategy.
- Represent Save the Children externally with donors, government and partners, leading positioning and facilitating collaboration.
- Member of the Senior Management Team, serving as senior-level bridge between different departments, facilitating shared learning and structured governance for programme decisions.
- Acting Deputy Country Director for 5 weeks (2025).

Strategic Development & Quality Coordinator, Cesvi (Tunisia/Libya) Sep 2021-Jan 2023

Cesvi is one of Italy's largest NGOs operating in 22 countries, annual turnover €26 million. Libya is its largest country operation.

- Head of Technical Unit and member of the SMT in charge of cross-project strategic alignment and quality assurance; line management of 4 staff including Specialists in Protection, Education and MEAL.
- Led the Libya Country Strategy renewal process, including setting strategic direction, drafting a new structure and coordinating cross-departmental inputs.
- Scoped new business development opportunities for Tunisia, including developing partnerships with private sector and academia and preparing a donor engagement schedule, and for Libya by diversifying the portfolio out of emergency assistance.
- Redesigned Cesvi's in-house training system for technical skills, introducing a blended (in-person/online) model based on identified skill gaps, boosting efficiency and saving \$25K annually.
- Proactively cultivated new ways of working in my team, by revising job descriptions, adjusting the frequency and content of meetings and allowing more space to focus on staff wellbeing.
- Conducted a 2-month support mission to launch Cesvi's Ukraine operation, requiring adaptive leadership under ambiguity.

Area Manager and Acting Project Manager, Cesvi (Tunisia/Libya) Sep 2020-Jul 2021

- Oversaw multi-sectoral migration programmes in protection, cash and non-formal education (~\$8 million); direct management of 4 staff.
- Launched new €2M project with Libyan partners remotely; built strong working relationships through formal and non-formal communication methods, enhancing partner delivery and responsiveness.
- Mentored Cesvi's first national Project Manager, enabling handover within six months through targeted capacity-building and confidence development.

- Spearheaded external coordination platform on national partner engagement, improving cross-agency communication and developing harmonised tools.

Consultant, UN World Food Programme Malawi (remote) Sep 2020-Aug 2021

- Lead consultant to WFP Malawi's Social Protection Unit, delivering multiple outputs:
 - Internal review of WFP's social protection portfolio; recommended strategic priorities for positioning and scale-up.
 - Stocktaking report on national policy with recommendations to strengthen the social protection/food security/nutrition nexus.
 - Advocacy briefs communicating best practices to external stakeholders including government and donors.

Regional Development and Quality Specialist, Danish Refugee Council (Tunisia) Sep 2019-Sep 2020

DRC is a leading refugee organisation operating in 40 countries, annual turnover DKK 3.1 billion

- Led programme quality, accountability and strategy redesign for two multi-partner, multi-country programmes with migrants across Libya, Mali and Niger (~\$25 million, EUTF/FCDO funded).
- Co-authored DRC's North Africa's regional strategy on mixed migration.
- Led the development of a programme-wide learning report encompassing programmatic, technical, and operational lessons.
- Oversaw reporting and results monitoring across 10 components for two donors; designed a tracker to improve partner timeliness and led training sessions on donor compliance.
- Cultivated relationships with partners and donors across four countries.

Programme Director, Concern (Chad, CAR, Haiti) Jun 2017-Sep 2018

Concern is the largest Irish NGO, working in 27 countries, annual turnover €200mil

- Roving head of programmes (up to \$12 million country portfolio) overseeing implementation and quality assurance of all projects, supervision of the programmes team (nationals and expats in programmes, M&E, grants roles) and lead for proposal development. Member of Country Management Team.
- Established a new operational base in the Lake Chad region.
- Spearheaded and led the Cash Working Group in Bangui (CAR) within two months of arrival.
- Designed funding strategies for all three country operations.
- Secured new donor funding for Haiti programme.

International Humanitarian Coordinator, United Purpose (Malawi) Feb 2016-May 2017

UP is a UK-based INGO operating in 9 countries, annual turnover £19mil

- Scaled humanitarian portfolio from \$400K to \$2.3M and increased reach from 136,000 to 700,000 people annually.
- Managed a humanitarian team of 60+ (direct reports: 8).
- Secured \$7 million in new multi-sectoral funding.
- Co-led a field study on humanitarian targeting; presented the findings to 50+ donors and partners.
- Seconded to Senegal/Gambia programme to scope humanitarian programming and do donor engagement.

Humanitarian & Programme Reporting Coord., United Purpose (Malawi) Oct 2013-Jan 2016

- Managed 5 ongoing projects in food security, cash, livelihoods managing teams and external partner relationships within large consortia.
- Coordinated UP Malawi's 2015 flood response across 5 districts, supporting over 1M people and managing 2 IDP camps (WASH, food distributions).
- Co-lead of the Malawi Cash Working Group and representative on the Food Security Cluster.
- Designed and rolled out a report management system across 40+ projects, significantly improving report quality and timeliness.

Project Assistant, United Purpose (Malawi) Jan-Sep 2013

- Supported the country's flagship resilience-building project (DISCOVER) on Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

- Represented UP on the committee drafting Malawi's national DRM Communication Strategy, engaging closely with government stakeholders.
- Secretary for the Government-led National Cookstoves Steering Committee on clean energy.

VOLUNTARY/PRO BONO EXPERIENCE

- Kwera Malawi, Head of Business Development** **Oct 2019-present**
- Innovative start-up, providing skills building for promising young Malawians enrolled in public universities. Lead for business development, donor engagement, strategy design and accountability systems strengthening.
- LSE Africa Summit, Speakers Coordinator** **Oct 2018-Mar 2019**
- Globally-renown university conference on Africa. Theme for 2019: Africa's Future Frontiers (led panel engagement for renewable energy and the diaspora)
- ShelterBox Response Team Member (emergency roster)** **Sep 2012-Sep 2016**
- Deployment to Niger in response to flood-induced displacement
- Social Rehabilitation Centre, Malawi** **Jun 2013-Dec 2015**
- Organised recreational activities and day trips for up to 20 street children/adolescents
- Bambini in Romania, Romania** **2007-2009**
- Volunteering with children and young adults with mental and physical disabilities

EDUCATION

- MSc International Migration and Public Policy, LSE (UK)** Sept 2018-Sept 2019
- Graduate course analysing migration trends and flows, case studies, and EU policy
- Awarded **Distinction** (in the top 10 percentile for three modules)
 - Elected student representative for the course
 - Selected as Speakers Coordinator for the LSE Africa Summit
 - Dissertation: Explaining recent changes to EU migration and development policy
- BA International Relations with European Study, University of Exeter (UK)** Sept 2008-Jun 2012
- Undergraduate course on theories and practice of International Relations and Politics
- Awarded **1st Class honours**
 - Elected student representative for the course
 - Year abroad in France (Strasbourg, 2011)
 - Dissertation: Investigating the socio-economic benefits of Disaster Risk Reduction
- Certificat d'Etudes Politiques Européennes, Université de Strasbourg**, Sept 2010-Jun 2011
- Erasmus at the Institut d'Études Politiques
- Mention bien

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & COURSES

Languages: Italian (native), English (bilingual), French (fluent)

IT: Proficient in Excel, Word, Power Point, Outlook, PRIME

Courses attended:

- April 2021, Hostile Environment Training, SACCO, *Tunisia*
- August 2016, Managing People and Projects in Emergencies, RedR, *UK*
- October-November 2012, Introduction to International Development, COOPI, *Italy*
- October 2012, CORE Humanitarian Principles, Intersos, *Italy*

PUBLICATIONS

- Tranchini, L. (2020) "Leveraging Social Protection to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition: What we know so far", WFP Malawi (unpublished)
- King, D. and Tranchini, L. (2017) "UBR MVAC Trial: A study on the feasibility of using a Social Registry for targeting a humanitarian response in Malawi" (Grey Literature)

REFERENCES

Available upon request