

# THERESA STIENEN

MONITORING, EVALUATION & LEARNING SPECIALIST  
WWF SWITZERLAND

## LANGUAGES

**German**      **Dutch**  
**English C2**    **French C2**  
**Japanese B1**   **Arabic B1**

## PROFILE

As a versatile and dedicated professional, I combine the insights gained throughout my career in human rights, humanitarian assistance, research, and nature conservation to lead and support impactful work.

## EDUCATION

**CAS Sustainable Mgmt.**  
Lucerne School of Business  
Mar 2021 - Mar 2022

**LLM w. distinction**  
SOAS, University of London  
Sep 2014 - Sep 2015

**BA International Relations**  
University of Geneva  
Sep 2007 - Sep 2010

**Matura**  
Gymnasium Oberwil, BL  
Aug 2003 - Dec 2006

## COMPETENCIES

### Evaluation, learning and evidence-based programming

⇒ Experience at: J-PAL, Caritas Switzerland, WWF Switzerland

### Project acquisition, development and management

⇒ Experience at: J-PAL, Caritas Switzerland, WWF Switzerland

### Partnerships and stakeholder engagement

⇒ Experience at: J-PAL, Caritas Switzerland, Alkarama, German Embassy to Türkiye


### Leadership experience


⇒ Experience at: J-PAL, Caritas Switzerland, Alkarama,

### Analysis and synthesis

⇒ Experience at: J-PAL, Alkarama, Euromed Rights, ICTJ

## CONTACT

 [linkedin.com/in/theresastienen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/theresastienen)

 Zürich, Switzerland

## REFERENCES

“...she ensured high quality programme implementation and always managed the entrusted projects and her team professionally and with diligence.”

– Lukas Voborsky, Regional Director, Caritas Switzerland

“...efficient, thoroughly professional and technically competent. She was meticulous and accurate in all her work and displayed enthusiasm and intelligence for every subject she encountered at Alkarama.”

– Mourad Dhina, CEO, Alkarama Foundation

“She proved to be exceptionally well informed about [topics] of relevance to the Committee’s work and articulated their importance and potential impact with nuance.”

– Joao Nataf, Secretary, UN Committee Against Torture

# EXPERIENCE

## WWF SWITZERLAND

### **Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Specialist** Switzerland *May 2024 - present*

- Supporting the board and teams across the organisation in developing and implementing impactful strategies and projects

## ABDUL LATIF JAMEEL POVERTY ACTION LAB (J-PAL)

### **Senior Policy Manager, Humanitarian Initiatives** France *Jul 2023 - April 2024*

- Established J-PAL's presence more firmly in the humanitarian sector to further evidence use in the areas of refugee livelihoods and protection in particular
- Supported the coordination of J-PAL's Policy and Communications Team in Europe

### **Policy Manager, Humanitarian Initiative** France *Jul 2021 - Jun 2023*

- Built and launched the research network's first initiative dedicated to impact evaluation & evidence use in humanitarian action
- Established relationships to influence humanitarian policy & practice for improved protection, effectiveness, sustainability
- Delivered three trainings tailored to humanitarian practitioners, incl. WFP, ICRC, NRC

## CARITAS SWITZERLAND

### **Consultant, Sustainable Livelihoods** Burkina Faso *May - Jul 2021*

- Led the design of an evidence-informed project within the humanitarian-development-nexus, helping the team win \$3.7m

### **Programme Manager, Syria Crisis Response** Jordan *Mar 2019 - Jun 2020*

- Responsible for strategy, operations, HR, fundraising and communication for all activities in Jordan
- Built strong partnerships and led negotiations with stakeholders (e.g. local hosting NGO, UNHCR, Ministry of Agriculture)
- Advised local partner on protection and livelihoods project design and monitoring, organisational change, and learning

### **Programme Officer, Syria Crisis & Greece** Switzerland *Aug 2016 - Feb 2019*

- Oversaw and implemented project cycle management at HQ; contributed to projects' visibility and organisational advocacy
- Introduced process improvements in project development, fundraising, and reporting to donors and senior management

## EUROMED RIGHTS

### **Consultant, Syria Universal Periodic Review (UPR)** Switzerland *Mar 2016*

- Wrote the 2021 UPR stakeholder submission and advocacy agenda for EuroMed Rights and its Syrian partners

## INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (ICJT)

### **Visiting Researcher, Lebanon** USA *Jun - Aug 2014*

- Provided weekly strategic input to the board re: Special Tribunal for LBN proceedings; gave recommendations on key issues

## ALKARAMA FOUNDATION

### **Middle East Programme Manager** Switzerland/Lebanon *Apr 2012 - Mar 2014*

- Built a regional programme with employees in Geneva & Beirut, documenting and monitoring 550+ human rights violations
- Designed and implemented UN advocacy strategies, with local partners, often in coalition with e.g. HRW, AI, EuroMed

### **Legal Officer** Switzerland *Oct 2011 - Mar 2012*

- Collected data; submitted individual cases to the UN Special Procedures; presented evidence before UN bodies

## GERMAN FEDERAL FOREIGN OFFICE, EMBASSY TO TÜRKIYE

### **Intern, Press and PR Department** Türkiye *May - Jul 2011*

## ALKARAMA FOUNDATION

### **Intern, Gulf** Switzerland *Sep 2010 - Jan 2011*

# CONTINUED LEARNING

*A selection of relevant training & courses:*

## **Impact and Effectiveness**

- Evaluating social programmes through randomised controlled trials (MITx/J-PAL, 2020)
- Data visualisation & visual analysis (Tableau eLearning, 2020)

## **Project Management**

- Programme management in fragile and conflict-affected settings (SDC, 2017, 2019)

## **Humanitarian Action and Poverty Alleviation**

- Designing a Multidimensional Poverty Index (Oxford University/OPHI & UNDP, 2020)
- Graduation, an innovative poverty alleviation approach (e.g. UNHCR, BRAC, Trickle Up, 2018-2020)
- Cash transfers & social safety nets in humanitarian aid (SDC, 2017)

# VOLUNTEERING

*Volunteer engagements have also shaped my trajectory, including:*

## **BETTER DAYS FOR MORIA** Greece *Dec 2015 - May 2016*

- Supported refugees and migrants on Lesbos, incl. AR-EN mediation w. police forces; volunteer community management

## **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL** Switzerland *Sep 07 - Aug 2010*

- Participated in and co-led Geneva University's student group; organised advocacy campaigns

## **AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS** Switzerland *Sep 06 - Jul 2007*

- Led workshops on intercultural sensitivity, communication and conflict management for exchange students