

## Curriculum Vitae

# Jürg Schneider

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## A summary of my experience

International relations and global cooperation on development and environment issues are the core of my professional experience. From 1988 until 1995, I have been doing anthropological fieldwork and was a project manager and researcher in international agricultural research. In late 1999, I started working for the Swiss Federal Administration as a senior policy advisor for environment. Since, I have been working for the Swiss government in a total of six functions related to international co-operation (bilateral and multilateral), development finance and global policy governance.

In terms of regional focus, I have broad experience in developing Asia, in particular Indonesia, where I have spent ten years of my professional career.

During my government career, I have worked in Jakarta for four years, in Paris (four years), and most recently in Bratislava (three years).

I have excellent foreign language skills (near-native speaker level of English, Indonesian and French, a passive knowledge of Spanish, Italian, Dutch and Slovak). I have been editing publications in German and English.

My professional functions required strong analytical and project management skills. I had to lead and coach diverse teams, and to use my communication and negotiation skills effectively. I have been able to build trust with people of very different backgrounds and to approach work-related objectives with tenacity and focus.

Since 2025, I work as a free-lance consultant and researcher.

## Full-time functions

2022 – 2025	<p><b>Deputy Head of Mission; Head of Swiss Contribution Offices Prague, Bratislava</b></p> <p><b>Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Embassy of Switzerland, Bratislava</b> Setting up programs funded under the Second Swiss Contribution for Slovakia and the Czech Republic.</p>
2019 – 2022	<p><b>Senior Advisor</b></p> <p><b>State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Multilateral Cooperation, Berne</b> Managing the desk for relations of Switzerland with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).</p>
2014 – 2018	<p><b>Delegate of Switzerland to OECD/Development Assistance Committee (DAC)</b></p> <p><b>Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OECD, Paris</b> Representing Switzerland in OECD bodies, primarily the Development Assistance Committee (DAC), the Development Center, and the External Relations Committee. Participating in peer reviews of member countries.</p>
2010 – 2014	<p><b>Head of Economic Development Cooperation</b></p> <p><b>Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Embassy of Switzerland, Jakarta, Indonesia</b> Setting up Switzerland's program for economic development cooperation with Indonesia.</p>
2007 – 2010	<p><b>Senior Advisor</b></p> <p><b>State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Division for Multilateral Finance Institutions, Berne</b> Managing our relations with the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank. Representing Switzerland in replenishment negotiations of the Asian Development Fund.</p>
1999 – 2007	<p><b>Senior Advisor</b></p> <p><b>Federal Office for the Environment (BAFU), International Affairs Division, Berne</b> Representing Switzerland in multilateral environmental cooperation programs with countries in transition (Eastern Europe and Central Asia). Co-ordinating inter-agency relations with Swiss federal offices mandated with development co-operation.</p>
1995 – 1999	<p><b>Assistant Professor</b></p> <p><b>University of Berne, Department of Anthropology, Berne</b> Teaching anthropology courses, with a focus on Indonesian studies, including basic Indonesian. Conducting research in agricultural development and ethnobotany / crop diversity.</p>
1992 – 1995	<p><b>Project Manager / Associate scientist</b></p> <p><b>International Potato Center (CIP), Regional Office for East, South East Asia, and the Pacific, Bogor, Indonesia</b> Implementing a project for the conservation of sweet potato genetic diversity in Indonesia, in collaboration with government partners in Java and Papua. Documenting farmers' knowledge; training staff in field work methodologies.</p>
1988 – 1992	<p><b>Researcher</b></p> <p><b>Swiss National Science Foundation / University of Berne</b> <b>Bengkulu, Indonesia; Berne</b> Participating in a collaborative anthropological research project on a highland region in Southwest Sumatra (Rejang-Lebong). Preparing and conducting Ph.D. fieldwork on the historical and contemporary intensification of rice agriculture.</p>

## Other assignments and projects

- 2019 **Renward Brandstetter, the Biography**  
As an offspring and sequel to the 2010 conference, based on additional research, I wrote a biography on Brandstetter (in German) for a broader audience (2019, Harrassowitz, Wiesbaden).
- 2010 **Conference on Renward Brandstetter (1860-1942), Swiss Linguist**  
*Lucerne, Switzerland*  
In 2010, I co-organized an interdisciplinary scientific conference to revisit the work of Renward Brandstetter on the occasion of his 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. I co-edited conference proceedings with the linguist Robert Blust from Hawaii.
- 2005 - 2007 **International Assessment of Science and Technology for Agricultural Development**  
Member of the expert group writing the introductory chapter of IAASTD, a World Bank-led assessment of the state and prospects of global agriculture (published in 2008), and co-chaired by Robert Watson and Hans Herren. A methodology similar to that of the IPCC was used.
- 2004 **Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT**  
Visiting fellow with Michael Dove, Professor for Social Ecology, to conduct research on crop diversity under human management (two-month sabbatical).
- 2001 **Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development, Vientiane, Lao PDR**  
Developing a project for the conservation of rice biodiversity in Lao PDR, together with Dr. Gary Atlin from the International Rice Research Institute.
- 1998 - 2000 **International Plant Genetic Resource Institute, Rome**  
Serving in the advisory board for a project on home gardens and biodiversity conservation led by Dr. Pablo Eyzaguirre from IPGRI (now Bioversity).
- 1998 - 2002 **Swiss College of Agriculture (now Berne University of Applied Sciences, School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences HAFL)**  
Member of the technical advisory group on "International Agriculture", a special curriculum at the College.

## Education

- 1992 **University of Berne, Institute of Ethnology**  
*Berne, Switzerland*  
Dr. phil.I, Anthropology
- 1980 – 1987 **University of Berne, Faculty of Philosophy**  
*Berne, Switzerland*  
M.A. (Lic.phil.I) with major in anthropology, minors: history, geography.
- 1979 **Lycee (Kantonsschule) Solothurn**  
Maturity type A (classical languages)