

Omar Meksassi

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DATA SCIENCE, ICT INNOVATION, NON-PROFIT AND BEHAVIORAL PSYCHOLOGY EXPERT

Personal Profile:

Country: Lebanon

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Languages:

English: Full or Bilingual proficiency

Arabic: Native Proficiency

French: Professional working proficiency

Serb/Croatian: Elementary Proficiency

Online Presence:

[facebook.com/omarmeksassi](https://www.facebook.com/omarmeksassi) [@omarmeksassi](https://twitter.com/omarmeksassi) [uk.linkedin.com/in/omarmeksassi](https://www.linkedin.com/in/omarmeksassi) github.com/omarmeksassi

Professional Experience:

Title: Independent Consultancies

Date: 10/2018 to Current

Client: Diakonia

Date: 01-03/2020

Project/specific title: Program evaluation of SIDA Civsam program in Lebanon

The objective is to assess the relevance and effectiveness of the Civsam program in Lebanon. The evaluation will focus on Diakonia's role, choice of focus, applied methods and ways of working to provide practical recommendations to Diakonia on how to improve our implementation.

Client: Oxfam GB

Date: 10-12/2019

Project/specific title: Mapping Expert (Local service provider through a gender and protection lens)

Conducting a service mapping of all service providers providing regular services for host community specially in Tripoli, Lebanon, where all services to be mapped through both a gender and a protection lens, providing an end product of a full service mapping to be used in clusters, service provider and working groups.

Client: British Council

Date: 8-9/2019

Project: Research for the national (Preventing Violent Extremism) strategy, Strengthening Resilience project SR2

Specific Title: Expert in: The use and the monitoring of technology and digitalization to protect the society from hate speeches and violent extremism discourse

Established the mappings of the existing and programmed institutional, regulatory and policy contents and programs relating to the Sectorial Workshop and of the relevant Ministerial Recommendations contained in the Pillar 8 about communication and technology while as suggesting actions that answer what more can be done to improve the strategy and evaluating the current recommendations.

A report of the work and a briefing document have been developed and shared/discussed during the national Workshop for 2 days to build an action plan for the ministries.

Client: International Alert UK

Date: 3-5/2019

Project: Assessment for the increase resilience and peacebuilding platform implemented by British Council

Specific Title: Digital Media Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant (Project Evaluator)

Developed a methodology for assessing the level of engagement with and reach of the British Council digital platform for increasing resilience and peacebuilding in Lebanon, whereas assessing metrics and breadth of reach, depth and quality of engagement with the capacity of influence. The methodology also included an approach for evaluating the quality and activity of networking and the ecosystem around the platform.

Carried out an assessment (based on the methodology) which can identify and assess changes in the quality and usefulness of outputs and user reception and engagement, the level and quality of audience interaction (nature of engagement, diversity, sustainability etc.) with the work of platform, incl. use of sentiment analysis and psychometrics, finally assess if the outputs were used and how as if this has helped to change attitudes and behaviours, while as providing recommendations.

Client: Microsoft

Date: 1-5/2019

Project: Office 365 design and implementation for non-profit

Specific Title: Non-profit Solutions Architect Consultant

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Customized a full functional ERP designated for non-profit use using Office 365 modules for non profit as in to be able to manage HR, Procurement, monitoring & evaluation and programs through an online cloud platform in partnership with Microsoft and local non profits in Lebanon. The platform did successfully reflect M&E in specific and non-profit processes and policies using Power BI, power apps and dynamics.

Client: European Union | Evropska unija u Crnoj Gori

Date: 10-12/2018

Project: MARD design and GDPR introductions

Specific Title: ICT Consultant

Assisted the national administration of Montenegro (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - MARD) to define main rules and procedures of the EU classification technology platform, and additionally, to produce technical specifications and technical requirements for Aid application management system (as part of IACS system) provided together with administrative control modules in line with the EU legislation, while introducing the GDPR compliance policy to the ministry, all while using the latest prototyping, wire framing, data collection, brainstorming and design tools.

Title: Program Manager

Organization: Akkarouna (Local NGO)

Date: 1/2018 to 3/2019

Location: Tripoli and Akkar

- Successfully expanded Akkarouna's programs across the north of the Lebanon in term of protection, shelter, social stability, and governance, while as refining Akkarouna strategy on these 4 pillars shaping its identity and targeting.
- Acquired multiple projects for Akkarouna from EU, GIZ, USAID, International NGOs (MC, Care, IRC...) and UN agencies (UNFPA, UNWOMAN, ESCWA, UNDP...) with budgets ranging from 20,000 USD\$ to 1,500,000 USD\$.
- Managed a team of projects managers, technical experts and external consultant in order to successfully implement projects through Akkarouna's spectrum.
- Formed a team dedicated for proposal writing and budgeting new projects for Akkarouna in order to sustain current programs. In partnership with University of Milano developed a new approach for child psychosocial support and mental health wellbeing to be applied with the local governmental institutions.
- Designed and applied a new method of acquiring talent for programs while as building safeguarding policies, protection mainstreaming and internal regulations for protection program compliances.
- In partnership with local NGOs successfully established a coalition and a strategy for Akkar to ensure sustainable funding for the region and refined targeting according to the coalition priorities.
- Expanded Akkarouna's team member from 40 full timers to 110 full timers with 20 volunteers working in the north region.

Title: Regional ICT Projects Manager (Full Timer)

Organization: International Rescue Committee | NY

Date: 3/2016 to 1/2018

Location: Based in Belgrade, Serbia (Greece and Balkan region)

- Successfully established ICT Lab Serbia with the main aim of developing open source ICT focused programs in the EU/MENA region also supporting programs using ICT supported tools, analytics, model and approach.
- In partnership with Google successfully developed an information dissemination platform Refugee.info, whereas acting as product manager and project manager to deliver an intuitive Web, mobile app and social media platform "over 100K" working with a team of developers, designers, translators and project managers in an international program covering Balkan, Italy and NA.
- Successfully built partnerships with Internews UK, Mercy Corp, Medecin du Monde UK, Cisco, Nethope, International Red Cross and Crescent and UN agencies in the Balkan region developed a central of information network in order to have vetted verified content delivery throughout the region using our platforms as main admin analytics and management backend.
- Managing a team of ICT4P located in Greece to support in data gathering and analytics for the programs being run in the Balkan, those tools includes: Kobo, Commcare, Tableau, RescueSMS and other innovative analytics and data capture tools.
- Built a well synced agile international development team using Scrum methodology, using the latest trends to develop solutions for program needs, includes: AngularJS, React Native, Google Cloud, Azure, REST API, Python, Django, Medium, Transifex and other up to date tools. While partnering with Microsoft and Twilio in order to develop an enhanced web experience, analytics and a programmable voice solution using latest hardware.
- In partnership with Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt and New Castle University UK developed research papers with the focus of using ICT for development and crisis, while as fundraising for new academic approached projects.
- Roles occupied during my assignment: Project manager, Product manager, UI/UX designer, software development, testing, deployment and training.

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- Extended our programs to MENA region with Alkhadamat.info with local partnerships throughout Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan. Miscellaneous projects accomplished during my assignment: Comet Reporting and data analysis (Data analysis and visualization customization solution in Balkan based on DHIS2) Gas Registrations (Data visualization) Tents Tracker (Protection tracking) EPRU fast assessments (web assessment tool) Spreadsheet connector (Integration tool) Balance checker (web banking integration) Emergency Roadmap and others, GitHub repo of projects: <http://github.com/theirc/>

Title: Projects Manager, Innovations (Full Timer)

Organization: International Rescue Committee

Date: 9/2014 to 3/2016

Location: Based Beirut covering Lebanon

- Leading the design, implementation and engineering of a self-registration cloud based directory with an integrated feedback mechanism as an innovation tool for Urban/non-Camp contexts of population.
- Successfully built a resilience index in partnership with WRC for major cities in Lebanon.
- Conducted 2 national Non-profit forums, discussing protection mainstreaming, referral pathways, general protection issues in Lebanon (Region specific), and integration of ICT in programming.
- Managed a team of 6 in order to develop a central network of information and on the ground people, having editors, legal, ICT4P, field officers and others with the support of other programs working in full sync and in Scrum iterations in order to develop a smooth well reliable platform for all NGOs communications and data.

<http://serviceinfo.rescue.org> <http://github.com/theirc/serviceinfo>

Title: IT Manager & Technical Coordinator

Organization: Nesma & Partners Contracting Co. Ltd

Date: 9/2011 to 12/2012

Location: Based in Doha, Qatar

Coordinating and managing security, innovation and robotics projects in partnership with security agencies to high profile client ex.: KSA government, and Qatar QNSFP. Highlights: developing a fully interactive robotics booth in Brazil for the representation of food security and water importance for the Qatar government with the partnership of global design agency, using latest technology at that time including Xbox kinematics, Moxa sensors, low voltage on big scale, retina recognition and others.

Title: IT Manager

Organization: Hospital Albert Haykel S.A.L.

Date: 9/2008 to 9/2011

Location: Dahr el Ein, Lebanon

Leading a migration of a paper based hospital to fully electronic based accredited IT department with HIPPA and local laws compliance. Fully electronic integration with all Hospitals sectors using the latest technologies including: HL7, Dicom, Gigabit infrastructure, Blade virtualization, salvage sites, remote access, ticketing/issue mechanism and the introduction of electronic biomedical integrations, as this technology at that time was in its early stages.

Awards and memberships worth mentioning:

- Sysadmin Award 2012 - Green Apple Award (nominated) - PMI Member - HL7 Member
- IET Member - ISOC Member - IEEE Member

Education:

- **BS in Behavioural Psychology** | The Open University UK | Date: 1/2018 - ongoing
- **Bertelsmann Data Science Scholarship Program** | Udacity | Date :01/05/2018 – 31/05/2019
- **Post-Graduate Diploma in Project Management** | American University of Beirut (AUB) | Date: 2012
- **Bachelor Degree in Computer Sciences** | American University of Technology (AUT) | Date: 2008 till 2011

Trainings, certifications and continuous education:

- Certified Protection Mainstreaming trainer | UNHCR & IRC | Date: 2019
- Protection, GBV, CP principles, non-violent communication, Safe identification and referrals, working with men and elderly, 3 days case management, and Trauma | EU, GIZ and Expertise France | Date: 2019
- Tutors of Resilience approach and methodology | University of Milan | Date: 2018-2019
- GDPR Compliance expert | Date: 2018
- Management development program (MDP) | International Rescue Committee | Date: 2015
- NGO management in difficult communities | AUB | Date: 2015
- HR Management in NGOs | Sagesse university | Date: 2015

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- Project Management Professional 5th (PMP) | Formatech | Date 2015
- Training of trainers in entrepreneurship | Microsoft | Date 2014
- HACCP L3 Manufacturing | Boeker
- Cisco certified network associate (CCNA) | CCIAT
- IT infrastructure library foundation (ITILV3 2009) | ITIL
- Autocad 2D training | Autodesk
- Microsoft certified system engineer (MCSE 2003)
- IEC 60364-7-710:2002-11 | Bender

Expertise and Skills: (going from specific technical skills to interpersonal skills)

Product Management, Project Management, Scrum Master, Agile development, innovations, Monitoring and evaluation, Protection mainstream, Nonprofit management, team management, Mapping, Python, R development, Data analysis, Modeling, Mining, Data science, Big data, Research, Web development, Machine Learning, GBVIMS, CPIMS, KOBO, Tableaux, Commcare, feedback mechanism, open environment, working autonomously, avoids micromanagement, positive attitude with a challenge oriented personality, international environment communication expert, cultural mediator, Leadership skills, presentation and motivational speeches.

Media Coverage and publications:

- British Council, Briefing Paper and final report:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CaeFEJF3VjlOUyCX3JVefCmJSCL5Of21/view?usp=sharing>
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wweloBEW0BgvkxLKb-ssCwRPOnJKowhv/view?usp=sharing>
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jD0xI0jIAqFXqXl723bpvz5iOv52kpW2/view?usp=sharing>
- Assessment Report | International Alert:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LC65y3_Ok2jLYqt1RcNoFsnKLD7JUoUs/view?usp=sharing
- Partnership with Google: <https://www.google.org/our-work/crisis-response/irc-refugee-crisis/>
- Media exposure of IRC ICT program: <http://www.businessinsider.com/google-launches-crisis-info-hub-to-help-european-refugee-crisis-2015-10>
- <https://venturebeat.com/2015/10/23/googles-crisis-hub-project-will-find-transit-lodging-and-medical-help-for-refugees/>
- Refugee.Info Hub: Providing vital information to refugees <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akpe5uUKv9U>
- Using ICT to facilitate access to information and accountability to affected populations in urban areas:
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0ByqTnrCOX69WY0JDNmcwX1hjRXM>
- <https://www.transifex.com/blog/2015/recognizing-the-international-rescue-committee/>
- <https://www.caktusgroup.com/blog/2015/12/31/what-we-open-sourced-2015-new-years-retrospective/>
- <https://www.marketplace.org/2015/04/27/world/service-info-its-yelpbut-refugees>
- <https://www.caktusgroup.com/blog/2015/04/28/npr-highlights-how-serviceinfo-app-helps-15-million-syrian-refugees/>

Wiling to relocate and travel extensively | References: upon Request