

# Curriculum Vitae

## Ms. Susanne von Walter

<b>Date of Birth:</b>	4 March 1954
<b>Nationality:</b>	Swedish
<b>Education:</b>	MSc/Forestry, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU, Uppsala, Sweden, 1978-1981
<b>Other Training:</b>	Development Studies, 20 credits, University of Uppsala, Uppsala, Sweden, 1994-1996
<b>Profession</b>	Forester
<b>Professional Experience Since:</b>	1976
<b>Countries Worked in:</b>	Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Laos, Mozambique, Paraguay, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Ukraine
<b>Languages:</b>	English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish

### KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Susanne von Walter is a trained forester who has worked as a consultant on numerous natural resource management and environmental protection programmes in Central and South America, Africa and Asia. She has extensive experience in the environmental aspects of forest management as well as in local (community) forest management. Through her studies, research and work, she has gained a sound understanding of the complex interface between the management of natural resources and land in general and society. She has specialized in the uses of non-timber forest products as alternatives, as well as their role in food security at household level. In addition, she has also concentrated on the social, economic and political aspects of common property resource management.

She has continuously developed her participatory methods skills in work and through PhD courses. She has worked with forest certification evaluations where she was largely responsible for the social aspects.

Susanne worked during her first 10 years as a forester in the Swedish Forest Service (SVO). She worked both at national, regional (Skaraborg and Västerbotten) and at local (Storuman; Sorsele) level in the organisation and gained experience on extension, forest management planning and legal and governance aspects of forestry.

## **LONG TERM ASSIGNMENTS**

### **04/2005 – Ongoing. Senior Programme Officer at SwedBio, Centre for Biological Diversity, SLU.**

Responsible for SwedBio cooperation with mainly NGOs working in the area of sustainable use of biodiversity. The cooperating organisations work for example with indigenous peoples rights (FPP; AIPP), Payment for Ecosystems Services (GFC), forest governance an policy within EU (FERN), Civil Society's involvement in global policy-making (CDB Alliance)

### **04/2002 – 04/2005 Senior Consultant, ORGUT Consulting AB, Stockholm, Sweden**

Home Office co-ordinator for Sida-Amhara Rural Development Programme (SARDP) in Amhara Region, Ethiopia.

Home Office co-ordinator for company activities in Mozambique

### **1998 – 2002 Senior Consultant, Scandiaconsult-NATURA AB, Stockholm, Sweden**

Project leader for Watershed and rural development project in Jambi, Indonesia.

Course Director, training manager and lecturer at international watershed courses held in Sweden, Philippines, Ecuador and Bolivia

Forest certification, social expert – Nacka community, Sweden, Forest Industry Organisation, Thailand, Ministry of Forestry, Ukraine

Lecturer in Environmental Impact Assessment, Sri Lanka and Laos

Responsible for social forestry aspects and NTFP, especially NTFPs role in household food security and for Common Property Resources Management – aspects of all projects

### **1996 – 1998 PhD student and consultant**

One year of academic studies in natural resources management with focus on Common Property Resources Management applied to uses of Non Timber Forest Products.

Title of research was “Farmers response to decentralised decision rights over forests; Institutions and Natural Resource Use.”

First fieldwork period was done in 1997 in Chilimo Forest in Oromiya Region in Ethiopia. The research aimed at understanding to what extent and for which purposes people used different products from the forest and how these patterns of use would be affected or changed when decentralised decision rights in the forest use were implemented. The fieldwork method used was semi structured interviews with individual women and groups of women from the villages surrounding the forest.

The theoretical framework for the research was recently developed empirical theories on Common Property Resources Management (CPRM).

### **1991 - 1996 Teacher and consultant, International Rural Development Center,**

## **Swedish University for Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden.**

The Centre was responsible for pre- graduate courses in Development Studies and functioned as a consultant unit to SIDA on issues concerning natural resource use and rural development.

At IRDC she was responsible for curricula development, planning and execution of courses in Development Studies given mainly to forestry students at SLU. She was also member of IRDCs co-ordinating group for MFS (Minor Field Studies). MFS scholarships are given to 40-50 students per year within the field of natural resource use and rural development. She screened proposals for MFS projects and also functioned as supervisor to some students. The scholarships aim at giving Swedish students possibilities to work in a developing country for 2-3 months. The reports are often used in the student's MSc theses.

During 1995 and 1996 she was responsible for the specialisation "Farm Forestry" within the MSc program given for Ethiopian students by SLU and the corresponding University in Ethiopia jointly (Agricultural University of Alemaya and University College of Wondo Genet).

The MSc program comprises of altogether 2 years of studies. A little more than one year, mainly thesis work is done in Ethiopia. Eight months, mainly courses, are given in Sweden. The students spend 4-5 months taking courses within the specialisation Farm Forestry. Two batches of altogether 21 students have so far received their MSc within the specialisation "Farm Forestry".

During the time at IRDC she also functioned as a consultant to SIDA for their Natural Resources program in Central America (1992-1995). Components of the program were: Management of National Parks, Management of National Plantation Fund for small scale farmers, Research Program on the sustainable use of threatened biotopes including natural forests (Non timber forest products and timber forest products). During this time she became more involved in international forest policy issues and in a wider sense also, management of renewable natural resources issues and discussions. For example, after UNCED she participated in organising an international conference on biodiversity aspects of Swedish (SIDA) support to management of natural resources.

## **1986 - 1991 Maternity leave**

### **09/1985–02/1986 Teacher in Inventory, Wondo Genet College of Forestry, Orgut Consulting AB**

Responsible for curricula development, teaching materials, teaching, field-work and all related issues for BSc students.

### **1983 – 1985 Assistant to Director, Regional Board of Forestry, Skaraborg, Sweden**

Assistant to the Director of the Regional Board of Forestry (Länsjägmästaren).

Responsible for the elaboration of the ten-year plan for forest related activities in the Province. In relation to this handle co-ordination between the different actors such as the private sector, the communes and the various province authorities.

Responsible for the co-operation with various teaching institutions in the Province. This

included forestry school, agricultural college and the extension functions of the farmers associations.

SVO co-ordinator for study circles and study campaigns.

Responsible for designing extension material, study circles and other information especially focussed on women forest owners and “farmers-wives”.

Responsible for SVO contacts with the study associations (NGOs) in the province (studieförbund). She also participated in study circles as resource person.

Secretary to the Board of the Regional Board of Forestry. This work included preparing issues and agendas for the board meetings.

Responsible for permanent research plots in various forest types in the province for the monitoring of impact of acid rain on forest health and growth. The work included collection, assessment and evaluation of data on province level, as well as participation in evaluation of results at a national level.

This work also included frequent contacts with “Miljö- och Hälsoskyddsnämnder” on issues of acidification of soils.

### **1981- 1983 Associate Expert FAO, University of Edouardo Mondlane, Maputo Mozambique.**

Responsible for curricula design, planning and execution of courses in Ergonomics and Safety in Work, Forest Road building and Harvesting given to forestry students at the Faculty of Agriculture at University of Edouardo Mondlane in Maputo Mozambique. The Department of Forestry at the Faculty was opened only a year before her arrival and the courses had never been given before.

### **1981 Trainee, Regional Board of Forestry, Västerbotten, Sweden**

Within the trainee program she had the opportunity to work with all the different departments (Inventory, Extension, Policy and Law, Information, and Technical departments).

### **1979 Inventory Specialist, Silviconsult Ltd., Bjärred, Sweden**

Team leader for inventory teams. Her duties were to head the inventory teams in the practical work and to plan the activities. Inventories were done at two main sites in Blekinge (Johannishus ) and Östergötland ( Baroniet Adelsvärd )

### **1980 Trainee, National Board of Forestry, Jönköping, Sweden**

Assistant to the group responsible for formulation of Sweden’s new Forestry Law and its regulations.

Assistant to the group responsible for designing the new farm-based (smaller forest owning farmers) Forest Management Plans stipulated by the new law. The work contained all steps from deciding which parameters should be included in the inventory, trying out field procedures for developing the plans, deciding lay-out and contents of plans, planning and executing information meetings with farmers groups and extension

activities in connection with the introduction of the plan to the farmers.

## **SHORT TERM ASSIGNMENTS**

### **September 2003, Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment Specialist(SEA), ORGUT, Ecuador 3 weeks**

Within the planning of a comprehensive Watershed Management Programme in the Northern Provinces of Ecuador, responsible for the Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment.

### **November 2001, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Bolivia, 3 weeks**

Planned and implemented a two week international training course in Watershed management. Participants were from governments, universities and NGOs in different Latin American countries.

### **October 2001, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, India, 2 weeks**

Planned a two week international training course in Watershed management in the northwest part of India. The task included finding suitable partners for the course, choosing field-site visits, setting up a management structure for the course and developing curricula.

### **September 2001, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, La Paz, Bolivia, 1 week**

Held a course in routines for Environmental Impact Assessment for personnel of Sida and their cooperating partners in Bolivia.

### **January 2001, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, the Philippines, 4 weeks**

Planned and implemented a two week international training course in Watershed management. Participants were from governments, universities and NGOs in different Asian countries.

### **November 2000, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Ecuador, 4 weeks**

Planned and implemented a two week international training course in Watershed management. Participants were from governments, universities and NGOs in different Latin American countries.

### **April 2000, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Sri Lanka, 1 week**

Held a course in routines for Environmental Impact Assessment for personnel of Sida and their cooperating partners in Sri Lanka.

**October 2000, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Laos, 1 week**

Held a course in routines for Environmental Impact Assessment for personnel of Sida and their cooperating partners in Laos.

**March 2000, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Thailand, 3 weeks**

Made a proposal on how to start the process of including communities in natural resources management for Forest Industries Organization (FIO). The work included screening of potentials for use and marketing of different Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP) and suggestions for opening up possibilities for Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM).

**January 2000, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, the Philippines, 4 weeks**

Planned and implemented a two week international training course in Watershed management. Participants were from governments, universities and NGOs in different Asian countries.

**November 1999, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Ecuador, 3 weeks**

Planned and implemented a two week international training course in Watershed management. Participants were from governments, universities and NGOs in different Latin American countries.

**May 1999, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Dominican Republic, 1 week**

Training of persons at Plan Sierra in Environmental Impact Assessment routines. Plan Sierra supported forest owners associations and were going to install a small modern sawmill.

**March 1999, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Indonesia, 2 weeks**

Facilitated the starting up of an Integrated Rural Development and Watershed Project with 15 national consultants and 6 international in south Sumatra.

**March 1999, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, Ukraine, 2 weeks**

Served as Non Timber Forest Products specialist in an international team working with Forest Policy Development together with the Ministry of Natural Resources in Ukraine.

**January 1999, Senior Consultant, SCC-Natura, the Philippines, 4 weeks**

Planned and implemented a two week international training course in Watershed management. Participants were from governments, universities and NGOs in different Asian countries.

**June 1995, teacher, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Vietnam, 4 weeks**

Responsible teacher and organizer for a group of agricultural students making a study trip on rural development in north and south Vietnam.

**June 1994, consultant, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden, 4**

**weeks**

Desk study on Credits to Forestry The study was commissioned by Sida. The study included fact finding in library and other data bases and presentation to Sida of findings.

**Intermittent 1992 1993, consultant, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Costa Rica, 10 weeks**

One of three members of Sida's Monitoring Team on their Programme on Natural Resources Management in Central America. The programme included support to CATIE, especially CATIE's programme concerning involvement of local communities in management of Protected Areas (OLAFO). A substantial part of the support was also to Costa Rica's fund for reforestation that serves small scale farmers.

**May 1992, Consultant, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Honduras, 1 week.**

Evaluation of one of the proposed pilot projects in the support to CATIE. The Pilot project involved soil conservation and watershed management by communities close to Choluteca.

**May 1993, Consultant, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Guatemala 2 weeks**

Evaluation of one of the pilot projects in the CATIE support. The Pilot project involved promoting community management of forests in El Peten protected areas.

**September 1992, Consultant, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Paraguay 2 weeks**

Monitoring and evaluation of a cooperation project between Swedish Museum of Natural History and their equivalent in Paraguay. The project included studies of biodiversity and curators training.

**EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

2002 - 2005

*ORGUT Consulting AB, Stockholm, Sweden*

Senior Consultant. Programme Manager for Ethiopia and Mozambique.

1998 - 2002

*SCC Natura AB, Stockholm, Sweden*

Senior Consultant.

1996 - 1998

*Department of Rural Development Studies, DRDS, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala Sweden*

PhD student, Common Property Resources Management applied to uses of Non Wood Forest Products.

1991 - 1996

*International Rural Development Center, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala Sweden.*

Teacher in Tropical Forestry and Rural Development Studies.

1986 - 1991

*Maternity Leave, Wondo Genet and Dessie, Ethiopia*

1985 - 1986

*Wondo Genet College of Forestry, Wondo Genet Ethiopia*

Teacher in Inventory

1982 - 1985

*Regional Board of Forestry, Skaraborg, Sweden*

Assistant to Director

1981 - 1983

*FAO Associate Expert, University of Edouardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mocambique*

Teacher

1981

*Regional Board of Forestry, Västerbotten, Sweden*

Trainee. (Extension, policy, information, legislative issues, inventory)

1980

*National Board of Forestry, Jönköping, Sweden*

Trainee (Inventory, policy, legislative issues)

1979

*Silviconsult Ltd, Bjärred, Sweden*

Inventory Specialist

## LANGUAGES

Swedish



English

Spanish (fair)

Portugues and French (Read. Understand some spoken)

**PUBLICATIONS**

von Walter, Susanne.. "Local Uses of Forest Products in Chilimo Forest in Oromiya Region, Ethiopia." *Economic Botany*.

von Walter, Susanne. 1995. "Non-Wood Forest Products and Sustainability" In *IRD Currents*. May. Uppsala: Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

von Walter, Susanne. 1981. "Impact of Incentives to Thinning Among Small Forest Owners in Two Provinces of Sweden." MSc Thesis. Uppsala: Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

