

Robert J. Kent Jr. – Curriculum Vitae

Personal details

United States citizenship
 Born: 10 November 1973
 Married to Rasa Siminkas Kent

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Future professional goals

My long-term professional goal is to work at the director level implementing environmental policy that focuses on water conflict resolution. More immediately, I plan to continue working in the field of environmental resource development. Within this profession, I want to improve my skills by seeking out more experience in water resources, economics, and agriculture. Given that many of the best opportunities to pursue these skills are in developing countries, my appreciation for difficult travel will help in adapting to local work conditions anywhere an opportunity arises. I also plan to one day obtain a PhD in conflict resolution, which will build on my water resource experience and better prepare me for the coming challenges of climate change.

Education

Australian National University's Crawford School of Economics and Government Policy, Canberra Australia (Class of 2009)
 Master of **Environmental Management and Development**
 Specializing in **Water Resources**

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona USA (Class of 2000)
 Bachelor of Science, **Civil Engineering**
 Minor in **Ocean Engineering**
 Graduated with honours: **3.05 GPA**

Professional responsibilities

RECEPTIVE RELATIONS, International operations **Nov 2007 to Feb 2009**
Environmental Resource Policy Advisor

- Visit community livelihood projects to learn and share best practices while also promoting exemplary examples to donors.
- Create photographic essays describing these projects, which are then posted online and viewed by 1,000+ users per month.

PURE WATER FOR THE WORLD, La Ceiba, Honduras **July 2006 to Oct 2007**
Project Manager

- Manage Rotary International grants to install household water filters and ensure sustainability by training local staff.
- Collaborate with businesses, NGOs, and state government to form a consensus regarding staff, costs, and responsibilities.

US PEACE CORPS, Kabankalan City, Philippines **Jan 2004 to June 2006**
Water & Sanitation Engineering Consultant

- To educate the community on the environmental issues and impacts related to their management of water and solid waste.
- Introduced sugarcane biochar as an alternative livelihood to illegal deforesting of the watershed for charcoal production.

THALES GEOSOLUTIONS (PACIFIC), INC., San Diego, California USA

July 2000 to Jan 2004

Formerly Racal Pelagos Corp. (June 1997 to Jan 1998)

Cable/Hydrographic Surveyor

- The representative for international offshore projects responsible for critical decisions while under stressful conditions.
- Utilizing client relationships, acted as Thales's onsite liaison informing them of opportunities, developments, and contracts.

MOFFATT & NICHOL ENGINEERS, Long Beach, California USA

Jan 1998 to June 2000

Staff Coastal Engineer

- Assisted with projects related to the design, construction, or repair of airfields, roads, bridges, piers, ports, river sedimentation, wetland restoration, and beach erosion contracts.
- Managed the department's computer IT and ACAD templates as well as deployed and operated field sampling instruments.

CONTROL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, Rancho Cucamonga, California USA

Jan 1994 to June 1997

Automation System Technician

- Installed, programmed, and repaired facility HVAC automation and control systems through system workstations.
- Oversaw the installation of control unit communication and power lines while also directing the purchase of computer control systems that, through outsourcing, identification, and analysis, led to significant cost savings.

Achievements

- Developing country field experience since 2004 in environmental management, sanitary landfill design, and creating sustainable community livelihood projects focused on preserving and utilizing limited water resources.
- Successful project start-up of a water filter micro-business, installation team, and follow-up health education programs.
- I worked with the local Honduran government at various levels to arrange for the contribution of resources to meet a grant's requirement for stakeholder participation. This included municipal transportation, village labour, and state health services.
- Fired and hired local staff using Spanish and still enjoyed a healthy professional and personal relationship with employees.
- Organized and facilitated a solid waste management conference in the Philippines; bringing together community members, education facilities, NGOs, and government agencies to learn and share current best practices and lessons learned.
- I have worked in the multi-cultural environment of 13 countries, in which three jobs were conducted in the foreign languages of Filipino Ilonggo, Spanish, and Syrian Arabic. In addition to working abroad, I have also travelled to a further 67 countries.
- Experienced in building sand filters, wells, rain catchment and spring fed communal water systems for rural communities.

Personal profile

- Knowledgeable in applying for grants and facilitating transparent micro-credit programs at the local level.
- Regular job assignments requiring detailed and diligent monthly reporting to inform supervisors of site/project status.
- Reliable long-term project planning and organization, ensuring dependable cost-management and work schedules.
- Persistent and flexible approach to bridging cultures between local communities/staff and foreign agencies.
- Strong personal integrity, relates to local communities, and creates trust by working with them for their interests.
- Dependable and consistent in supporting and facilitating team efforts to produce genuine long-term livelihood gains.
- Creative and original approach when working to solve abstract and complicated problems.

Computer skills

- Software and hardware proficiency since 1992; knowledgeable in Windows OS, MS Office, AutoCAD, Visual Basic, IT system networks and computer hardware repair.
- Photograph editing and presentation experience with software such as Photoshop, Dreamweaver, ACDSee, and Gallery.
- Website design experience with PHP, Apache Server, MySQL, Adobe CS3, and Wordpress.
- I am also knowledgeable in STATA econometric software and Vensim for modelling of environmental and social systems.

Foreign languages skills

- Native English speaker.
- Colloquial Syrian **Arabic**- 180 class hours (Nov 2007 – April 2008).
- Central American **Spanish**- 60 class hours (July 2006 – Oct 2007).
- Filipino Visayan Dialect **Ilonggo**- 90 class hours (2004 – 2006).
- My wife is an advanced speaker of Spanish, French, Lithuanian and English and intermediate speaker of Arabic and Ilonggo.

Professional certifications and training

- Teaching English as a Foreign Language (**TEFL**) Certificate from ITTT. Completed March 2006.
- US Peace Corps cultural and technical training as **Water/Sanitation** Volunteer. Completed April 2004.
- Small ocean-craft operator licence. Obtained June 1998.
- NAUI **Master Scuba Diver** licence. Obtained June 1997.
- Professional Engineer in Training (**EIT** or FE) Certificate. Obtained April 1997.

Civic organizations and volunteering

- President of Crawford School Student Association at Australia National University: 2009.
- Chi Epsilon Civil Engineering **Honour Society**: current national member.
- Member of **Rotary** International, Philippines: 2004.
- American Society of Civil Engineers (**ASCE**): 1998 – 2002.
- Engineering consultant for The Rhino Fund in Entebbe, Uganda, 2001.
- American Society of Engineers and Architects (**ASEA**): 1992 – 1994, Club President 1994.

Awards and competitions

- Runner-up for the Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship: July 2006
- As team leader, placed second overall in the Pacific Southwest Regional Conference for concrete canoe: April 1999
- Arthur E. & Gladys P. Flum award for outstanding mathematics student: June 1994

Travel / Exposure to business culture

- I have lived or am familiar working in: Australia, Denmark, France, Honduras, Indonesia, Malaysia, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Syria, and the United States of America.
- I have also travelled to an additional 67 countries.

Referees

- **Luca Tacconi BEc MCom PhD**, Associate Professor, Program Director Environmental Management and Development, Crawford School of Economics and Government. The Australian National University: +61 (0)2 6125-7554, luca.tacconi@anu.edu.au
- **Carolyn Meub**, Executive Director. Pure Water for the World: +1 (802) 747-0778, Carolyn.Meub@PureWaterForTheWorld.org
- **Alan Mair PhD**, formerly Water/Sanitation Technical Instructor. US Peace Corps- Philippines: +1 (808) 753-7520, alanthemair@yahoo.com
- **Ying Poon D.Sc. P.E.**, formerly Supervisory Engineer. Moffatt & Nichol Engineers: +1 (562) 435-9308, ying.poon@everestconsultants.com