

CHARLES LASHAM

CAREER SUMMARY

Within over 30 years of experience Lasham has managed projects and programs, analyzed electoral laws, written poll workers manuals, given advice to electoral management bodies, trained electoral commissions and observers, and conducted numerous electoral related missions and assignments.

Lasham has worked in over thirty countries around the globe on electoral issues with several donors.

Working at the highest level in elections throughout the world, Lasham also held the top electoral positions in UK being the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for the City of Liverpool and the Regional Returning Officer for the North West of England.

CAREER HISTORY

- From – To: November 2009 – December 2010
Position: **Country Director, IFES-Egypt**
Employer: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Responsibilities included the overall management of the IFES program working with civil society, electoral implementers, media, a local “Think Tank” and the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University.
- From – To: June 2008 – November 2009
Position: **Chief of Party, IFES-Afghanistan**
Employer: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Responsibilities included the overall management of the IFES \$70m program supporting the capacity building of the Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan and working with civil society on gender and get out the vote issues.
- From – To: April 2007 – June 2008
Position: **Chief of Party, IFES-Iraq**
Employer: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Responsibilities included the overall management of the IFES \$28m program supporting the Independent High Electoral Commission of Iraq and working in close collaboration with UNDP electoral program.
- From – To: August 2006 – March 2007
Position: **Senior Advisor for Electoral Administration, Washington & other countries**
Employer: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Responsibilities included assisting senior staff at IFES Washington, Country Directors in the field and others using my experience in electoral administration by assuming acting CoP positions, analyzing electoral laws, assisting with writing proposals, writing poll worker manuals, giving advice to election management bodies on strategic planning, training of electoral commissioners, training staff within commissions, senior election staff, poll workers and domestic and international observers and management issues.

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CAREER HISTORY *continued...*

PUBLICATIONS

Joint Author "Electoral Administrator's Manual" (UK) published by Shaw and Sons 1992;

Writer on Election Management chapters of Administration and Cost of Elections (ACE) Encyclopedia published by IFES/UN/IDEA in 1997
-www.aceproject.org

ACADEMIC PAPERS

A study on behalf of Harvard University Institute for International Development on the existing Romanian Water Legislation and recommended an election system, rules and regulations for the election of delegates to River Basin Committees, 1997.

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

Founder member and Former Chair of the Association of Electoral Administrators UK

International Association of Clerks Recorders Election Officials and Treasurers (IACREOT) USA.

From – To: January 2004 – August 2006
Position: **Country Director, IFES – Nigeria**
Employer: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Responsibilities included the overall management of the IFES program covering legal drafting, advice to the Independent National Electoral Commission, working with civil society, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Department for International Development (DfID). Managing 10 Nigerian staff and two international staff and had overall responsibility for a USAID \$5m program and a \$5m DfID consortium involving IFES, Global Rights and IDASA with IFES as the leader of the consortium. In addition, assisting other IFES programs and develop new business and assisting other country directors in Burundi, Sierra Leone, Ghana and The Gambia.

From – To: September 2001 – December 2003
Position: **Project Director, IFES- Azerbaijan**
Employer: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Responsibilities included the overall management of the IFES- Azerbaijan \$3m project which worked with the Central Election Commission, legal drafters, political parties, municipalities, mass media, NGOs and citizens of Azerbaijan; Development of the new Unified Election Code adopted June 2003 in which over 85% of IFES recommendations were accepted by the presidential apparatus and parliament; Established a CEC core training team for the training of Precinct Election Commission members that trained over 10,000 PEC prior to the 2003 Presidential elections; Attracted additional financial assistance in excess of \$300,000 from organizations such as OSCE, ODIHR, Statoil, the British, German and Netherlands embassies giving added value to our program work.

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ELECTION OBSERVATION & ASSESSMENT

Namibia (1989)
Bulgaria (1991)
Romania (1992)
Hungary (1994)
El Salvador (1994)
Estonia (1995)
Albania (1996)
Sierra Leone (1996)
Tanzania (1996)
Uganda (1996)
Zanzibar (1996)
Armenia (1998)
Guatemala (1999)
Kosovo (2000)
Suriname (2000)
Moldova (2001 & 2005)
Azerbaijan (2001-2003)

And more recently in:

Nigeria
Cape Verde
Ghana
USA
The Gambia
Afghanistan

CAREER HISTORY *continued...*

From – To: July 2000 – August 2001
Position: **Project Director, IFES- Moldova**
Employer: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Responsibilities included the overall management of the IFES- Moldova project which covered work with Central Electoral Commission, political parties, ministries, mass media, NGOs and public administration bodies in general; Trained ODIHR core team members, long term and short term election observers, on the election process for the presidential election observation mission; Held meetings and negotiations with representatives of Government, Election Commission and political parties at the highest level.

From - To: Sept. 1971 – July 2000
Position **Chief Electoral Officer**
Employer: Liverpool City Council Legal Department
Responsibilities included the production of the voter register for the City of Liverpool and the conduct all elections held within the City boundaries.

Between 1989-2000 was appointed Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer. Also appointed as Regional Returning Officer for the North West of England (5.5 million voters) covering 43 local government areas.

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A – Z OF COUNTRIES

Afghanistan
Albania
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bulgaria
Burundi
Cape Verde
Egypt
El Salvador
Estonia
The Gambia
Ghana
Guatemala
Hungary
Iraq
Kenya
Kosovo
Moldova
Namibia
Nigeria
Romania
Rusia
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
South Korea
Suriname
Tanzania
Uganda
UK
USA
Venezuela
Zanzibar

CONSULTANCIES

From – To: January 1990 – October 1996
Position: **Consultant**
Employers: IFES, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and British Council
Countries: **Bulgaria 1990**: Pre-election assessment mission.
Seychelles 1992: Pre-election assessment mission.
Tanzania 1992: Pre-election assessment mission.
Countries: **Kenya 1992**
Responsibilities included directing an assessment of training needs for the Electoral Commission of Kenya; Participated in an Election Training Seminar immediately prior to the country's step towards multi-party democracy.
Countries: **Russia 1993**
Responsibilities included writing a poll workers manual for the Central Elections Commission of Russia. Working closely with CEC representatives and others connected with elections in Russia.
Countries: **Uganda 1994**
Responsibilities included training poll workers; Assisted with the production of a poll worker manual.
Countries: **Tanzania 1994**
Responsibilities included directing an assessment of a training seminar for Returning Officers organized by the National Electoral Commission.
Countries: **Romania 1995**
Responsibilities included directing a pre-election technical assessment; writing material for and organizing training sessions on behalf of the Federation for Romanian Municipalities in conjunction with the University of Birmingham.
Countries: **Armenia 1995**
Responsibilities included delivering seminars over a 5 day period to candidates and members of the Central Elections Commission as part of the TACIS program for democracy.

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TRAINING EXPERIENCE

Between 1987 and 1999 undertook numerous training sessions for electoral staff in the UK including the training of Returning Officers. The training covered all aspects of electoral administration including voter registration, candidate nomination, election expenses and polling and counting procedures.

Training Overseas includes delivering training to EMBs on electoral issues and best practice; strategic planning for EMBs, training of international observers including embassy staff; international standards in the electoral process.

Training delivered on effective presentation and communication skills, public speaking and customer care.

Guest lecturer on electoral issues at Cairo University Faculty of Economics and Political Science (2010).

Successfully completed Democracy and Governance BRIDGE training of facilitators course organized by the Australian Electoral Commission and United Nations Democracy Fund (September 2010).

CONSULTANCIES *continued...*

Albania 1996

Responsibilities included determining the ability of Central Election Commission of Albania to organize "free and fair" local government elections; Liaising closely with USAID Country Representative, Commission members and Secretary of State for Local Government.

From – To: March 1995 to June 1997

Employer: ORGANISATION FOR SECURITY and COOPERATION in EUROPE (OSCE)

Countries: **Estonia**

Responsibilities included coordinating international observers on behalf of OSCE.

Countries: **Albania**

Responsibilities included organizing, training and deployment of observers for parliamentary elections.

EDUCATION

Certificate in Public Administration, Liverpool University Sept. 1971– June 1974 UK

Diploma in Electoral Administration, Association of Electoral Administrators 1997 UK

LANGUAGES

English: Native speaker

PERSONAL DATA

Date of Birth:
30 July 1952

Place of Birth:
Liverpool

Nationality:
British

Marital Status:
Married

Gender:
Male

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