



**Jacques Mérat, 1970**  
**HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation**

**Function in Organisation:** Senior Advisor Municipal Development (July 2011)

**Immediate former function:** Programme Officer „Eastern Europe Unit“ and „Governance and Natural Resources Team“

**Educational background** BA Economics, MA sociology, MA Governance and Development

**Years of professional experience:** 14

**Years in development/international cooperation:** 12

**Year started in Organisation:** 2008

**Thematic competences:** decentralisation and local governance (national-local fiscal and administrative relationships, capacity building for local governments, participatory planning and budgeting, social audits, local taxes), participatory community based management of natural resources (non timber forest products, irrigation, land), land ownership administration (collective/individual), quantitative and qualitative surveys, human rights monitoring, emergency aid and protection work in civil war.

**Process competences:** Conception of tool boxes based on capitalization of experiences, Project cycle management, Team-building and organizational development, participatory methods, stakeholders analysis and moderation, facilitation of workshops for coordination or training purposes, external evaluation and assistance to self-evaluation, acquisition of funds and consultancy mandates.

**Country experience long term (> 6 months):** Latin America (Colombia, Ecuador); Africa (Madagascar)

**Country experience short term (1 to 6 months):** Eastern Europe Kosovo, Peru, Kirgistan

**Mother tongue/other working languages:** French/Spanish/English (German)

**Other experiences:** Special relationship with faith-based NGOs (Caritas, Interteam, Misereor, Fastenopfer), also with the International Land Coalition (ILC) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Institute of Development Studies at sussex University (IDS) as assistant, Publication of scientific articles on decentralization and participation, some experience as an entrepreneur in Latin America.