

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Till Sterzel

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Sex Male | Date of birth 10/02/1977 | Nationality German, American

POSITION

Climate change consultant

WORK EXPERIENCE

07/2013–Present

Consultant

self-employed, Potsdam (Germany)

- 10 years of experience as a researcher in climate change science, focusing on
 - Climate change in cities under rapid urbanization
 - Coastal urban vulnerability and adaptation to multiple stresses in low- and middle-income countries
 - Web-based climate services
 - Implications of global environmental change for violent conflict
 - Integrated data analysis
 - Interdisciplinary research
- 3.5 years of experience as an independent consultant and trainer at climate-babel (www.climate-babel.org) - a network of scientists for consulting, data analysis, and training in climate change mitigation and adaptation for effective integration in development cooperation. My portfolio includes:
 - Scientific consulting and support
 - Trainings: cities and climate change, urbanization, climate change vulnerability assessments, climate change basics, ecological dimensions of sustainable development, GIS, digital cartography
 - Data analysis: Retrieval, integration, analysis and visualization of data
 - Reviews, report-writing, overviews
 - Global and regional assessments, vulnerability assessments, GIS (Geographic Information Systems) analysis, digital mapping
- Consulting activity to date: Germany, Kenya, Indonesia, Tanzania, Uganda

Selected missions:

For further references please visit climate-babel.org/references-en/

09/2016–Present

Trainer for "Green" Cities for Sustainable Urban Development

Seminar for Rural Development (SLE), Berlin (Germany)

- 10 days training at [SLE](#)
- Key contents: Environmental impacts on cities and vice versa, climate adaptation and mitigation in cities, managed urbanization
- Audience: Urban planners, international development officers, project managers from transnational institutions, and scientists, from high-, middle-, and low-income countries

- 03/2016–04/2016 **Climate Information Services expert for the European Commission**
Evaluation of EU project proposals for exploiting the added value of Climate Information Services within the EU HORIZON 2020 framework programme.
- 12/2015–Present **Consultant in the project Integrated Climate Protection Plan for the State of Hesse**
Öko-Institute, Berlin (Germany)
- Development of climate adaptation measures for multiple sectors. The project is funded by the Environment Ministry of the German State of Hesse
 - Scientific backstopping in the participatory stakeholder process for developing the climate protection plan
- 08/2015–Present **Trainer for climate change adaptation and vulnerability assessments**
Seminar for Rural Development (SLE), Berlin (Germany)
- Five-day trainings at SLE
 - Key contents: Concepts, operationalization, and measurement of climate change vulnerability in development cooperation
 - Methodological focus: Conducting climate change vulnerability assessments using the Vulnerability Sourcebook method (GIZ, 2014)
 - Audience: Urban planners, international development officers, project managers from transnational institutions, and scientists, from high-, middle-, and low-income countries
- 05/2015–08/2015 **Consultant in the project Risk Assessment and Management for Adaptation to Climate Change (Loss & Damage)**
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ GmbH (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda)
- Conducted a stakeholder-based scoping mission through Eastern Africa together with GIZ
 - Produced comprehensive report on recommendations for new climate change risk assessment and management projects
- 04/2015–Present **Trainer for strategies and instruments for sustainable development under urbanization and climate change**
Seminar for Rural Development (SLE), Berlin (Germany)
- One-week trainings in postgraduate study program in international development cooperation at SLE.
 - Key contents: Climate change, adaptation and mitigation basics, cities and urbanization in non-OECD countries, ecological dimensions of strategies for sustainable development, climate change and violent conflict
 - Methodological focus: Planetary boundaries, carbon budget, impact chains, climate impact and vulnerability assessments, Loss and Damage
 - Audience: Post-graduate students of programme "international cooperation for sustainable development"
- 05/2014–07/2014 **Consultant in the EU-project Post Carbon Cities of Tomorrow (Pocacito, EU FP-7)**
Ecologic Institute, Ecologic (Germany)
- Built a database of climate-related network memberships and performance for >1000 cities
 - Co-authored a report on leading EU cities in low-carbon development
- 10/2013–03/2014 **Consultant in the project Data and Information Management for Adaptation to Climate Change (DATACLIM)**
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ GmbH (Indonesia and Germany)

- Linked climate indices to ministerial needs
- Scientific and technical backstopping for the development of the project's web-based climate service
- Climate data and GIS analysis
- Synthesis of project for reports and brochures for various types of audiences
- Integration of project results into web-based adaptation networks and communities

07/2013–07/2013 **Consultant in the project Data and Information Management for Adaptation to Climate Change (DATACLIM)**

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ GmbH (Germany)

- Produced report on best practices in existing web-based climate adaptation information services
- Produced conceptual and content-based recommendations for DATACLIM's web-based climate adaptation information service

01/2008–05/2013 **Scientist**

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Potsdam (Germany)

- Interdisciplinary research, projects, and publications in the fields of climate change vulnerability, adaptation and mitigation regarding cities, low-income countries, and human security
- Master's level teaching on cities and climate change
- Methodological focus: Data integration and analysis, typology development, vulnerability assessment, GIS, mapping
- Track record of scientific publications
- Reviewer for peer-reviewed ISI-listed scientific journals
- Organizing and writing of project proposals
- Responsible for GIS and digital mapping in numerous projects
- PhD thesis to be submitted in June 2016: Analyzing global typologies of socio-ecological vulnerability - the cases of rapid coastal urbanization and human security

Selected projects

- Web-based climate information service for climate change adaptation in developing countries: Climate Impacts-Global and Regional Adaptation Support Platform, www.ci-grasp.org (collaboration with GIZ, funded by BMUB)
- Global systematization of coastal urban vulnerability for cities under rapid urbanization in low-and middle income countries (in project Inventory of Methods for Adaptation to Climate Change, funded by PBL Netherlands and BMUB)
- Global assessment of the potential for peri-urban agriculture in a post-carbon world (in project PROGRESS, funded by BMBF)
- Development of a global city greenhouse gas emissions database (in projects RAMSES and PROGRESS, funded by BMBF)
- Implications of socio-ecological vulnerability for violent conflicts in Africa using geo-referenced conflict database (funded by PBL and BMUB)
- Development of a method for analyzing global typologies of climate and global change vulnerabilities. Application to coastal cities, violent conflicts and drylands (funded by PBL)

12/2005–12/2007 **Research assistant**

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)

- GIS analysis and mapping of CO₂ emissions and sectoral vulnerability to climate change for UN-SEG (United Nations Scientific Expert Group) report Confronting Climate Change
- Scenario-based future nitrogen deposition calculation for Europe

03/2005–06/2005 **GIS and mapping specialist**
 WHO collaborating Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), Brussels (Belgium)
 GIS analysis and mapping of violent conflicts (Darfur, Sudan) and dengue fever dynamics (Southeast Asia)

01/2004–11/2004 **Student Assistant, Diploma Thesis**
 Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
 Diploma thesis on "Correlation analysis of climate variables and wheat yield data on various aggregation levels in Germany and the EU-15 using GIS and statistical methods", Grade: 1.3 („very good“, A-level in European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System ECTS)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

01/10/2000–31/10/2005 **Geographer (Diploma)** Master's degree equivalent
 Humboldt University, Berlin

- Advanced study period of geography, geoinformatics, and meteorology. Grade: 1.5 („very good“, A-level in ECTS)
- Student tutorial teaching on general climatology

01/10/1997–28/02/2000 **Preliminary Diploma in geography** Bachelor equivalent
 Philipps University, Marburg, Marburg (Germany)
 Basic study period of geography, geoinformatics, and meteorology. Grade: 1.5 („very good“)

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) English, German (bilingual upbringing)

Other language(s)	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
French	A2	A2	A2	A2	A1
Spanish	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user
 Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills

- Intercultural communication (through living abroad for over 13 years)
- Strong ability to work in interdisciplinary and multi-national environments (through work experience at PIK, CRED, and as a scientific consultant abroad)
- Strong communication and oral presentation skills (through work experience in numerous interdisciplinary projects, trainings, and university teaching)

Organisational / managerial skills

- Supervision and guidance (through training, teaching, and supervising interns)
- Organizing and writing project proposals

Digital competence

- GIS and mapping software: ArcGIS, QuantumGIS (excellent command)
- MS Office and corresponding Open Office programs (excellent)
- Graphical and image processing software: Inkscape, Gimp, Photoshop, Aperture (very good)

- Statistical software: SPSS (good)
- Programming skills: R (basic)

Other skills Certified advanced training courses:

- Leadership competence
- Moderation
- Conflict management

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications

Selected peer-reviewed ISI articles and book chapters

- **Sterzel, T.**, Lüdeke, M.K.B., Walther, C., Kok, M., Sietz, D., Lucas, P. (2016): Global typology of coastal urban vulnerability under rapid urbanization. Submitted to Global Environmental Change. Under review.
- Rybski, D., **Sterzel, T.** et al. (2016): Cities as nuclei of sustainability? Environment and Planning B. In print.
- Kok, M., Lüdeke, M.K.B., Lucas, P., **Sterzel, T.** et al. (2015): A new method for the analysis of archetypical patterns of vulnerability. Regional Environmental Change. DOI:10.1007/s10113-014-0746-1
- **Sterzel, T.**, Orłowski, B., Förster, H., Eucker, D. et al. (2015): Climate Change Vulnerability Indicators From Noise to Signal. In: The Making of Governmental Knowledge Through Quantification. Rottenburg, R. et al. (eds): Cambridge. Cambridge University Press. In print.
- **Sterzel, T.**, Lüdeke, M.B.L. et al. (2013): Armed conflict distribution in global drylands through the lens of a typology of socio-ecological vulnerability. Regional Environmental Change. DOI: 10.1007/s10113-013-0553-0
- Förster, H., **Sterzel, T.** et al. (2011): Sea-level rise in Indonesia: On adaptation priorities in the agricultural sector. Regional Environmental Change. DOI: 10.1007/s10113-011-0226-9
- Badeck, F.-W., **Sterzel, T.** (2010): Nitrogen Deposition - a Major Risk for Biodiversity. In: Atlas of Biodiversity Risk. Settele, J., et al (eds). Pensoft, Sofia, Moscow.

Peer-reviewed ISI articles in preparation:

- Kriewald, S., **Sterzel, T.**, Pradhan, P., Kropp, J., Cantú Ros, A. G. (2016): The contribution of the urban hinterland to food self-sufficiency in large cities: A global overview.

Selected reports

- Lüdeke, M.B.L., Walther, C, **Sterzel, T.**, et al.(2014): Understanding Change in Patterns of Vulnerability. PIK-Report 127. 49 pp. Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research.
- Kok, M.T.J., **Sterzel, T.**, et al. (2010): Quantitative analysis of patterns of vulnerability to global environmental change. Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL), Bilthoven, 92pp.
- Bresser, T., Lüdeke, M.K.B., **Sterzel, T.** et al. (2009): Beyond 2015: Long-term development and the Millennium Development Goals. Hilderink, H. et al., (eds) PBL, Bilthoven, 2009, 73pp.
- **Sterzel, T.** (2007): Correlation Analysis of Climate Variables and Wheat Yield Data on Various Aggregation Levels in Germany and the EU-15 Using GIS and Statistical Methods, with a Focus on Heat Wave Years. PIK Report, No. 108, 122 pp.

Selected proceedings

- Reusser, D.E., Wrobel, M., Nocke, T., **Sterzel, T.** et al. (2011): Presentation of uncertainties on web platforms for climate change information. Procedia Environmental Sciences 7: 80-85.