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Helene van Laar

Helene is Project manager at the Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM) and the Department of Mathematics

Short biography

Coming from a background of leading biological research and human health-oriented projects implemented with the support from international organizations, I've come to enjoy the managing part of it. The aim is to bring people from different countries and/or backgrounds together to work toward a common goal.

Currently I'm engaged in the EU projects MIRACA (Multi-hazard Infrastructure Risk Assessment for Climate Adaption), FOODCITYBOOST (Urban agriculture as a cornerstone of sustainable development) and BEYONDTHEEDGE (Math doctoral network), and the NWO projects Align4ENERGY (towards system-optimal clean energy investments), VeenVitaal (towards sustainable, nature-inclusive peat landscapes) and RESHAPE (Nature-inspired water system solutions for Resilient Dutch sand landscapes).

Curriculum Vitae

- 2024-present: Project Manager EU and NWO projects at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VUA)
- 2015-2023: Coordinator of the National Malaria Program in Suriname, managing malaria and COVID19 projects funded by The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and coordinating activities funded by the InterAmerican Development Bank, The Pan American Health Organization/USAID and the World Health Organization.
- 2005-2010: PhD research on malaria entomology in Suriname, Promotor Prof. W. Takken, Wageningen University, Netherlands
- 2005- 2015: Head Dept. of Entomology, Bureau of Public Health, Suriname & Entomologist for the National Malaria Program in Suriname
- 1996-2005: Head Invertebrates Department, National Zoological Collection at the ADEK University of Suriname

Education

- 2005-2010: PhD research on malaria entomology in Suriname, Promotor Prof. W. Takken, Wageningen University, Netherlands
- 1991-1996: BSc and MSc in Biology, Wageningen University, Netherlands