

Kevin Blanchard *BSc (Hons) MSc FRGS*

Policy & Programme Specialist

Summary

Policy and programme specialist with over 15 years supporting governments, UN agencies and NGOs on governance, resilience and inclusive policy. Proven record translating evidence into policy, coordinating multi-stakeholder initiatives and embedding equity in design and delivery. Comfortable leading strategy and hands-on delivery across health, social policy and risk management.

Key words

Disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, inclusive governance, gender and social equity, programme management, policy analysis, stakeholder engagement, donor alignment.

Key skills

- Public policy design and delivery
- Programme management and coordination
- Inclusive governance and equity-based policy
- Stakeholder engagement and partnership building
 - Qualitative research and policy analysis
- Facilitation, training and capacity development
 - Donor and proposal development
- Strategic communications and knowledge translation

Education & professional memberships

Masters in Environment, Politics & Globalisation (Merit) - *King's College London, 2010 – 11*
BSc (Hons) in Environmental Management (2:1 (Hons)) - *Kingston University London, 2006 -09*
Fellow at the Royal Geographical Society

Employment history

Independent policy consultant - Jul 2020 - present

Working across UK and global institutions on public policy, governance reform and inclusive practice.

Selected roles:

- **ICIMOD (2025)** – Supported a regional policy roadmap for inclusive governance and risk-informed development in South Asia. Contributed technical advice on social inclusion, supported engagement with national governments, and drafted strategic content for alignment with ICIMOD's Strategy 2030.
- **UN World Food Programme (2022 - 2025)** - Developed policy frameworks integrating climate resilience and disaster preparedness in public health and food security strategies.
- **University College London (2023)** – Authored a public guide on improving policy responses to LGBTQIA+ communities during crises. The guide provided practical steps for emergency planners and policymakers to identify risks, address exclusion, and engage more effectively with marginalised populations.
- **UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (2022)** – Produced guidance for governments on the inclusion of marginalised communities in emergency preparedness. This involved reviewing global practice, consulting with civil society organisations, and drafting policy recommendations that align with international resilience frameworks.
- **UN Women (2020–2021)** – Developed a global policy tracking tool to monitor inclusion of women and at-risk groups in disaster and resilience frameworks. The work involved mapping over 100

national policies and designing a practical toolkit to support more gender-responsive decision-making by governments and UN partners.

- **UK National Health Service (2020–2021)** – Designed a regional resilience strategy to guide COVID-19 recovery, integrating public health and risk management into local operations. This included aligning health service planning with evolving risk scenarios and supporting local authorities to embed inclusive approaches in their emergency preparedness.

DRR Dynamics, Lead researcher, Jan 2013 - 2023

- Provided policy research and advisory services to governments and multilateral agencies.
- Delivered studies on social equity, marginalisation, data ethics, and evidence-based policy approaches.
- Produced policy briefs on intersectionality and structural exclusion in public services.

Public Health England - Senior Policy Advisor - 2015 – 2018

- Led policy development on resilience and public health planning across England and Wales.
- Coordinated cross-department engagement on the UK's implementation of the Sendai Framework and WHO health risk guidance.
- Developed strategies to align health emergency planning with climate, environmental and equity goals.
- Represented the UK at high-level international forums on resilience and health systems strengthening.

UK Government, Defra & DECC - Policy Advisor - 2010 – 2012

- Supported policy implementation for climate adaptation and flood risk under the 2010 Flood Management Act.
- Worked on the UK emissions trading platform and consulted with industry and civil society stakeholders.

IMC Worldwide, Policy Consultant - 2012

- Developed strategic approaches for community engagement and inclusive governance across resilience and development programmes.

Earlier Policy Roles - 1998 – 2006

- Held positions at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), Ministry of Justice, ABTA and Allianz Cornhill, contributing to the development of policies and programmes primarily focused on domestic issues.

Speaking and training

Experienced facilitator and trainer for government and NGO audiences; speaker (UN conferences and international workshops) and guest lecturer UCL (UK), NYU (USA), Berkeley (USA), Coventry (UK), Kingston (UK), Lincoln (UK) and Tübingen (Germany).

Voluntary Work & Interests

- Convenor of [#DRRLive](#), a seminar series on inclusive governance and social equity in policy (since 2012)
- Lead comms on the [#NoNaturalDisasters campaign](#) (2017 - 2023)

Publications

Extensive list of publications on public policy, equity and governance, including journal articles, guidance documents, and policy briefs. Full list available on request.