



Annika Freudenberger

afreudenberger@merid.org • Work +1.202.354.6445 • Mobile +1.202.689.7769
1800 M Street, NW • Suite 400N • Washington, DC, 20036, United States

Summary

A Fellow and Project Assistant at Meridian Institute with experience working on cross-sectoral public policy issues. Graduated summa cum laude from Barnard College with a Bachelor's degree in Urban Studies. Professional experience in research and political advocacy as well as facilitation and participatory training, stakeholder engagement, and youth health and leadership education. Academic background focused on topics of climate change resilience, public space and built environment, social and economic justice, and equitable urban and regional development. Fluent in French.

Meridian Experience

Meridian Institute

2018—Present

Meridian Institute designs and facilitates collaborative processes that help diverse parties identify critical issues, build relationships and trust, construct innovative solutions, and implement durable decisions. These collaborative processes address challenges at the local, state, national, and international levels, and involve leaders from government agencies, industry, nongovernmental organizations, and international institutions. Meridian also assists organizations in conducting strategy development and planning.

Fellow and Project Assistant

Provides research, writing, and support for policy dialogues, negotiations, and strategy development projects involving facilitators and outside parties. Assists in the preparation of reports, meeting summaries, meeting materials, press releases, and other communications. Specific project highlights include:

- Member of the Meridian team collaborating with external organizations to provide technical support to cocoa and chocolate companies with commitments to the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI). The CFI is a joint public-private initiative involving the Governments of Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire and the private sector, which are working in parallel to end deforestation and land degradation associated with the cocoa sector in the two countries, while also improving smallholder farmers' livelihoods.

- Supports the Meridian team facilitating a collaborative effort to improve data consistency and quality and help fill data gaps in measurement and monitoring of supply chain sustainability. The effort builds upon and catalyzes existing reporting and assessment initiatives to improve alignment between various initiatives; identify needs and gaps; and release a set of guidelines, developed by and for the reporting and assessment community, of best practices for tracking the impact of supply chain sustainability commitments.
- Member of the Meridian team conducting an independent review of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). The ccNSO is responsible for developing and recommending global policies relating to country code top-level domains (ccTLD) to the ICANN leadership and community.
- Member of the Meridian team exploring new approaches for improving company practices with regard to the marketing of breast-milk substitutes, with the aim of enhancing the nutrition and health of infants, young children, and mothers around the world.
- Please see <http://merid.org/staff/afreudenberger> for a full list of projects completed.

Previous Experience

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future

Washington, DC 2018

Policy and Program Intern

Created quantitative impact reports communicating the organization's successes in providing high-quality affordable housing. Identified indicators, analyzed data and performed calculations, and designed final layout.

Barnard College Urban Studies Program

Fianarantsoa, Madagascar 2017
New York, New York 2018

Independent Researcher

Conducted original research on Madagascar's outdoor second-hand clothes markets, including interviews with

vendors and government officials.

Published results in senior thesis, *From Teddy Bears to a Livelihood: Informality and Public Space in the Fripe Markets of Fianarantsoa, Madagascar*.

Projet Jeune Leader

Fianarantsoa, Madagascar 2017

Special Projects Coordinator

Coordinated a team of 17 to create youth-friendly, locally-adapted leadership magazines, distributed to all middle schools in Fianarantsoa reaching a total of 12,000 students. Created a cartoon menstrual health PSA video; organized content testing sessions, wrote a storyboard, and collaborated with a local production company.

Senator Leahy, Senate Judiciary Committee

Washington, DC 2016

Intern

Conducted research on Committee issues including immigration, criminal justice, and technology. Wrote memos for senior staff summarizing Congressional briefings and hearings.

Drug Policy Alliance

New York, New York 2016

Policy and Research Intern

Tracked legislation and researched drug policy issues to support lobbying and activism efforts. Coordinated stakeholders' political actions across the

country and identified opportunities for collaboration. Interviewed individuals affected by drug policy issues and wrote op-eds and other advocacy materials sharing their stories.

Projet Jeune Leader

Fianarantsoa, Madagascar 2015

Leadership Consultant

Developed a youth-centered, activity-based leadership curriculum for young adolescents to complement a reproductive health curriculum. Facilitated workshops on participatory teaching methods, conflict mediation, public speaking, and youth engagement to 15 youth educators and 2 project assistants.

Education**Barnard College, Columbia University**

B.A., Urban Studies

2018