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# WILLEM VAN DE PUT

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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### SUMMARY

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- 30+ years international health program development, research and management experience in cross-cultural settings in Africa, Asia and Europe;
- Areas of focus include emergency relief, reproductive health, women's empowerment, social mobilization, mental health, advocacy, NGO capacity-building, performance-based finance models, health insurance development;
- Program and research experience includes mental health, cross-cultural psychiatry, health systems development, participatory action research and needs assessment; SRHR and GBV programming, health systems program planning and management; monitoring and evaluation; private sector development; training;
- Management/administrative experience includes organizational needs assessment and development; long-range/strategic planning; team building and staff development, training and supervision; budget development and management; grant and report writing; fundraising; management of NGO with annual turnover of €25-30m;
- Other experience includes making documentary films, lecturing, publishing in press and in peer-reviewed journals.

### PROFILE

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- Energetic, enthusiastic and stimulating, sense of humour, good interpersonal skills, long standing experience in multi-cultural teams and leading skills;
- Loyal: the job gets done with focus – loyal to people, the organization, and the mission.
- Effective networker able to build on extensive experience and personal relations across continents.

- Quick in analysing complex situations and creative in finding solutions, used to working on the edge of civil society, donor and government interests.
- Proven specific in-depth interest in international programming, both in emergency and development (health systems development, health financing, mental health), fragile states, culture, conflict and development, and, most of all, people in need.

## Summary work experience

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### **2017-present: Senior Research Fellow Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp. Member of faculty.**

Responsibilities include capacity building and guidance for the National Institutes of Public Health in Cambodia and Guinea; coaching and training MPH and PhD students and developing and executing research initiatives. Some issues taken on: I have finalized reports for WHO and UHC 2030; set up research in scaling up Non-Communicable Disease programmes (Horizon 2020 funding); initialized mental health as a cross-cutting issue in the agenda of the Public Health Department; organized a colloquium on Anti-Microbial Resistance in Cambodia; developed research into the health risks of the use of pesticides in Cambodia.

### **2017 – present: Co-founder Culture for Change (C4C)**

After some 25 years in NGO work of which 18 years at the helm of HealthNet TPO (see below) I learned a lot about the root cause of social suffering. C4C is started as a group that addresses these causes in a way that combines a business approach with fundamental knowledge about how culture works – or becomes dysfunctional – under stress factors such as violence, repression, war-rape and exclusion. C4C analyzes situations wherein communities have to survive at the edge of civilization. It then addresses challenges as they are defined in a process of collective reflection, where local beliefs, needs and resources are mobilized to come to better solutions. This includes alternatives ways to work on collective trauma, revitalize group dynamics, and bring financial and social inclusion (see [www.culture4change.com](http://www.culture4change.com)).

### **2016-present: Research Fellow Fordham University, New York. Member of faculty.**

Since 2004 I am co-director (with Dr Lynne Jones and Prof Larry Hollingworth) of the international course “Mental Health in Complex Emergencies” which we organise every year under the auspices of the Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs (IIHA) of Fordham University. I became a Research Fellow there in March 2017. IIHA prepares current and future aid workers with the knowledge and skills needed to respond effectively in times of humanitarian crisis and disaster. Courses are borne of an interdisciplinary curriculum that combines academic theory with the practical experience of seasoned humanitarian professionals.

### **2012-2019: Co-director research grant AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL, “Angulimala Walks” on violence in Cambodia**

As co-director (with Prof Maurice Eisenbruch of Monash University, Australia) I provided leadership and direct action research contributions to a team of international experts uncovering the dynamics of ‘violence in Cambodia’. The team provided research reports and tools for direct implementation in projects addressing Gender Based Violence and health effects of violence and human-rights violations. Members of the team

included experts from Monash University (Australia), Rutgers University (USA), Utrecht University (Netherlands), Uppsala University (Sweden), George Mason University (USA), and the Royal University of Phnom Penh (Cambodia).

#### **1998-2016: Director of HealthNet-TPO**

HealthNet TPO is an independent non-governmental organization bridging relief to development in crisis situations worldwide. Founded in 1992, HealthNet TPO is a leading agency focused entirely on providing support to the redevelopment of health and social services in the aftermath of crisis. The core business of HealthNet TPO is to implement welfare and public health projects in a context of chronic conflict or transition. Special focus is on community systems strengthening, public mental health, health systems development, reproductive health and rights, and health financing.

HealthNet International implemented more than 250 projects in some 30 countries with an average annual turnover of some 25 million euro, employed 20-35 staff in Amsterdam and about 4500 staff worldwide, and published about 250 articles in peer reviewed journals to contribute to the evidence base of interventions in fragile states. More information can be found at [www.healthnettpo.org](http://www.healthnettpo.org)

I built the organization HealthNet from a sub-contracting agency of Médecins sans Frontières with a turnover of €3m in 1998 to an independent agency ten times that size. A successful merger between HealthNet and TPO led to an effective agency active on health, mental health and social work in post-conflict situations. The agency is leading in the development of innovative mental health, reproductive health and health finance programs, working through a unique combination of action research and implementation.

In 2016, a major donor was identified who invested 2,5 million in core-funding for HealthNet TPO. After 18 years at the helm of the organisation, in the knowledge of a sound basis for further development, I chose to find new challenges and ended my contract.

#### **1997-1998: Visiting professor in Medical Anthropology at the University of Phnom Penh**

Teaching courses in Medical Anthropology and research methodology, and curriculum design with RUPP staff for the psychology department.

#### **1994-1998: Initiator and Director of TPO Cambodia.**

After working for Médecins sans Frontières in Cambodia in 1990-1992, I worked with the Dutch Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) to design and fund the initiation of TPO Cambodia. Willem set up the agency in Cambodia and developed it through management, anthropological and epidemiological research, training, development of interventions, and fund-raising. TPO Cambodia became an independent Cambodian organization in 2000, and has contributed since to mental health care and psychosocial work in Cambodia.

#### **1989-1994: Médecins sans Frontières (Artsen zonder Grenzen NL).**

First hired medical anthropologist, responsible for field research into effectiveness of aid projects in Central America, Africa and South East Asian countries, living and working in Nicaragua, Uganda, Cambodia. As from 1992 based in Head Office Amsterdam. Staff member of the medical department, with the assignment to

promote Applied Medical Anthropology, research and methodological development. As from 1992 also working on development of intervention models aimed at mental health and psycho-social problems in emergency settings. Field assignments in Albania, Bosnia, Burundi, Cambodia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire. This resulted in the overall responsibility for development of models and management of six projects aimed at psychosocial support.

**1987-1988: Amnesty International Amsterdam**, coordinator East Asia desk.

## Prizes, Honours and Awards

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- 2018 - Award, World Bank Group Development Marketplace for Innovation on Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response, Washington DC
- 2005 - Golden Calf Prize for best feature documentary for '**The Deacon of Death**', a documentary on Cambodia and how people cope with the past.

## Films & Documentaries:

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- 2016    *Silent Land: the fight for fair food*. A film by Jan van den Berg and Willem van de Put. Première 11 October 2016, Tuschinsky Theatre Amsterdam. In Cambodia, more and more fertile land is taken over by large-scale farming industries. Local subsistence farmers struggle to keep ownership of their land to maintain food security and cultural continuity. Who has the sustainable answer to feed the ever-growing world population? *Silent Land* shows the stories behind this conflict.
- 2010    *Psychiatry Unchained*: an overview of the present situation of psychiatric care in low income countries and post conflict situations. 23 minutes. The film was made with Jan van den Berg, DRS Film.
- 2007    *The Incident*. March 4, 2007 Jalalabad, Afghanistan: An incident described by US forces as a "complex ambush" left 19 civilians dead. Thousands of local people took to the streets, accusing the Americans of deliberately firing on civilians. In the film we speak with victims and witnesses. The film was made with Jan van den Berg, DRS Film.
- 2004    *Deacon of Death: Looking for justice in today's Cambodia*. A film by Jan van den Berg and Willem van de Put. Première Dutch Film Festival 26-09-'04: First Prize 'Gouden Kalf' for best feature length documentary. The confrontation of a Khmer Rouge district leader with one of the survivors who witnessed his murderous reign.
- 1997    *Mindfields*. Film with Jan van den Berg. DRS productions, Utrecht.

## Invited speaker addresses (selection of recent lectures):

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1998-2021 Media interviews in newspapers, radio & television • Studium Generale, University of Maastricht: 'Mental health of refugees and ourselves', 2019 • Global Health and Security, Sciences-Po, Paris 2018/2019 • 2018 Lectures

medical sociology, University of Antwerp • 2018 Qualitative Data Repository (National Science Foundation-funded), New York • 2016 Opening of the Amsterdam Public Research Collaboration between AMC and VU medical universities. • 2015 Global Health & Innovation Conference (GHIC) • 2015 Humanitarian Innovation Conference, Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford • 2012 Maastricht Annual Symposium on Global and European Health • 2012 Invited speaker, RET conference, The Netherlands

## Summary of other experience:

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- Chairman of organising committee 'MENTAL HEALTH VOICES FROM AFRICA', opened by Her Majesty Queen Mathilde of the Belgians, 14-15 June 2021.
- Member of 'MigratiebeRaad' – initiating rethinking of migration policies and practices of circular migration in the Netherlands (since 2019)
- Member of supervisory board SIMAVI (<https://simavi.nl/>) (since 2018)
- Initiator and Course Director: *MENTAL HEALTH IN COMPLEX EMERGENCIES*, an ongoing collaboration between the Institute for International Humanitarian Affairs, Fordham University, and UNHCR, 2005-present;
- Member of board "Johannes Wier Stichting" - for health and human rights (2010-2014)
- Member and Chairman of **MEDICAM**, the Cambodian platform for international and local NGOs working in the field of health care development in Cambodia, liaising between government, donors and 100+ NGOs (1996-2000);
- Consultancies for various agencies in medical anthropology and family planning;
- Field work as medical anthropologist in Afghanistan, Burundi, Cambodia, East-Timor, Guinea, Kenya, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Uganda;
- Chairman 'Stichting Direct', Board member Médecins sans Frontières (Artsen zonder Grenzen) Holland, Member of the Board of Directors of TPO Cambodia, Member of the Board of Directors of HealthNet Bosnia, Member of the Board of Directors of HealthNet Peru;
- Member Eastern Mediterranean Advisory Committee for Health Research, World Health Organization Cairo (2002-2010)
- Scientific Advisory Council, War Trauma Foundation (1996-2010)
- Initiator and member editorial council, 'Intervention', international journal of mental health, psychosocial work, and counselling in areas of armed conflict. <http://www.interventionjournal.com/> until 2008
- Department for International Development (UK) competitive grant scheme assessor; reviewer for HP&P, SS&M and incidentally other peer-review journals

## Selected Publications & Papers

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Eisenbruch, M, Chhun, P, Chou, S and van de Put, W. (2021) Toward a cultural template of infectious disease and

pandemics: Ethnographic insights into COVID-19 in Cambodia. American Anthropological Association Meeting, Baltimore, 17-21 November.

Mukala Mayoyo, Erick, Willem van de Put, Sara Van Belle, Bibiane van Mierlo, Bart Criel (2021) Intégration de la santé mentale dans les services de soins de santé primaires en République démocratique du Congo. *Santé Publique* 2021/1 (Vol. 33) <https://www.cairn.info/publications-de-Willem-van%20de%20Put--723358.htm?WT.tsrc=cairnPdf>

Eisenbruch, M, Chhun, P, Chou, S. and van de Put, W. (2021). How Should Child Psychiatrists be Culturally Responsive to Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Including Unwanted Sexual Touching? an Ethnographic Study in Cambodia. [39989]. 68th Annual Meeting, American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. 18-30 October. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*. Supp. (forthcoming).

Kolie, D., Van De Pas, R., Fofana, T. O., Delamou, A., Put, W. V. D. & Van Damme, W. (2021) Guinea's response to syndemic hotspots. In : *BMJ Global Health* . 6, 10

Van Mierlo, B., Nagel, N. & W. van de Put (2021) Inspiring Life in Frozen Communities: Supporting Migrant Women in Brussels to Regain Control over their Lives. *Community Mental Health Journal*, 57(3), 598-605 DOI 10.1007/s10597-020-00743-z

Kolie, D, W. van de Put et. al. (2020) Retention of Healthcare Workers One Year After Recruitment and Deployment in Rural Setting: an Experience Post-Ebola in Five Health Districts in Guinea. DOI 10.21203/rs.3.rs-122033/v1

Ag Ahmed, M. A., Ly, B. A., Millimouno, T. M., Alami, H., Faye, C. L., Boukary, S., Accoe, K., Van Damme, Willem Van De Put, Criel, B. & Doumbia, S., (2020) Willingness to comply with physical distancing measures against COVID-19 in four African countries. Sep-2020, In : *BMJ Global Health* . 5, 9

Delphin Kolie, Alexandre Delamou, Remco van de Pas, Nafissatou Dioubate, Patrice Bouedouno, Abdoul Habib Beavogui, Abdoulaye Kaba, Abdoulaye Misside Diallo, Willem Van De Put, Wim Van Damme (2019) 'Never let a crisis go to waste': post- Ebola agenda- setting for health system strengthening in Guinea. *BMJ Global Health* 2019;4:e001925. doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2019-001925

Remco van de Pas, Willem van de Put and others (2019). Primary health care and health emergencies. Part of the Technical series on primary health care on the occasion of the Global Conference on Primary Health Care, Astana, Kazakhstan. October 2018. World Health Organization. (2018). Primary health care and health emergencies. World Health Organization. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/328105>. License: CC BY-NC-SA DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.16223.20640

Remco van de Pas, Willem van de Put, Clara Affun-Adegbulu and Button Ricarte (2018). Primary health care and health emergencies. An AA40 background paper for the Alma Ata 40 Years Global Conference on Primary Health Care, Astana, Kazakhstan, 25-26 October 2018. WHO, Unicef, Ministry of Health Care, Republic of Kazakhstan. December 2018. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.20762.29125

Van Damme Wim, Willem van de Put, Devadasan Narayanan, Ricarte Juan Antonio, Muyembe Jean-Jacques (2018). Is the world ready for the next pandemic threat? *BMJ* 2018; 362 :k3296

Clara Affun-Adegbulu, Sara Van Belle, Wim van Damme, Button Ricarte, Remco van de Pas and Willem van de Put (2017) *Context and Crisis. Evidence on Coordination and Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) in Countries under Stress: a literature review and some reflections on the findings*. Institute for Tropical Medicine, Antwerp

Maurice Eisenbruch, Willem van de Put and Kim Savuon (2016) Violence in Cambodia - Equipping psychiatry to fit the culture. Paper for 15th ASEAN Federation of Psychiatry and Mental Health Congress 25-27 August 2016, Semarang, Indonesia

Ventevogel, P., W. van de Put, H. Faiz, B. van Mierlo, M. Siddiqi, I. Komproe. (2012) Improving access to mental health care and psychosocial support within a fragile context: a case study from Afghanistan. *PLoS Medicine* (<http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1001225>)

Somasundaram D. J., Van de Put, W. (2006) Management of Trauma in Special Populations After a Disaster. *J Clin Psychiatry* 2006;67[suppl 2]:64–73

Eisenbruch, I.M., Joop T. V. M. de Jong, Willem van de Put. (2004). Bringing Order Out of Chaos: A Culturally Competent Approach to Managing the Problems of Refugees and Victims of Organized Violence. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, Vol. 17, No. 2, April 2004, pp. 123–131

van de Put, W. A. C. M., & Eisenbruch, M. (2004). Internally Displaced Cambodians: Healing Trauma in Communities. In K. E. Miller & L. M. Rasco (Eds.), *The mental health of refugees: Ecological approaches to healing and adaptation* (pp. 133-159). Mahwah, NJ, US: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Publishers.

Van de Put, W (2002), Addressing mental health in Afghanistan. *THE LANCET* Vol 360, pp 40-43.

Van de Put, W. & Eisenbruch, M. (2002). The Cambodian Experience. In: *Trauma, War, and Violence: Public Mental Health In Socio-cultural Context*. Edited by J. de Jong, Plenum Kluwer, New York

De Jong J. T.V.M., W. van de Put, D. Somasundaram a.o. (2001) Lifetime Events and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Four Post-Conflict Settings. *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, 286 (5) 555-562.

Van de Put, W.A.C.M. & Van der Veer, G. (2001) Counseling in Cambodia. In: *Mind & human interaction*, 11 (4) 246-257. Center for the Study of Mind and Human Interaction, University of Virginia.

Somasundaram, D. J., Van de Put, W.A.C.M., Eisenbruch I. M, J. de Jong (1999) Starting Mental Health Services in Cambodia. In: *Social Science and Medicine*, 48 1029-1046

Somasundaram D. J., Van de Put, W. (1999): Mental Health Care in Cambodia. In: *Bulletin WHO Forum*, 77 (3).

Van de Put, W. (1992): *Empty Hospitals, Thriving Business: utilization of health services and health seeking behaviour in two Cambodian districts*. Medicines sans Frontières report, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

## Education

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Doctoraal Examen (M.A.), University of Amsterdam, Philosophy. Specialization systematic philosophy, Central Interfaculty UvA. Thesis: “Habermas’ theorie des Kommunikatieven Handelns and the rationality debate in Cultural Anthropology”.

Doctoraal Examen (M.A.), University of Amsterdam, Cultural Anthropology. Specialization Medical Anthropology, Faculty of Political & Social Sciences, UvA. Thesis: “Líderes de Salud: history and effectiveness of village health workers at Nicaragua’s East coast”.

## Language skills

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Dutch	Native	English	Excellent
German	Conversational	Khmer (Cambodian)	Conversational
French	Good		

CV Willem van de Put