

Femke Mulder

Senior Research Fellow
Disaster Management Science

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About

I am a researcher in the field of disaster and humanitarian studies, with over 15 years of experience in programme management, strategy, and policy research for academic institutions, government, and global NGOs. I currently work as a senior research fellow at University College London, UK. To date, I have worked on earthquakes, multi-hazards, conflict, climate-related hazards, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. I speak Dutch, English and Spanish.

Topics of Expertise

- Organising and innovating for disasters
- Resilience and business continuity
- Knowledge management for disasters
- Disaster (risk) communication
- Community based participatory approaches

Key Skills and Attributes

- Academic, policy and strategy research
- Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods
- Program management and evaluation
- Speaking and writing for different audiences
- Working in fragile / hazard-prone locations

Research Experience

Senior Research Fellow

University College
London, UK
2023 - 2024

RiskPACC, MEDiate and TURNkey were three international, interdisciplinary research projects, funded by the European Union, that aimed to create methodological frameworks and practical tools to support local and regional disaster risk management and governance in Europe.

RiskPACC project
[funded by Horizon
2020]
2023-2024

- RiskPACC aimed to centre dialogue and collaboration between authorities and citizens in disaster risk management.
- MEDiate aimed to enhance local and regional disaster risk management through a focus on multi-hazards and societal resilience.
- TURNkey focused on fostering urban resilience to earthquakes through early warning, forecasting, and rapid response.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Anglia Ruskin
University, UK
2019 – 2023

My responsibilities for all three projects were broadly similar. They included:

MEDiate project
[funded by Horizon
Europe]
2022-2023

- Contributing to the development of conceptual frameworks and practical tools.
- Leading the collaboration around deliverables, reports, conference contributions, and peer reviewed papers.
- Conducting literature reviews, interviews, focus groups, and surveys.
- Organising, chairing, and documenting co-creation meetings with researchers, tool developers, government authorities, business organisations, critical infrastructure providers, and other community stakeholders.
- Participating in the management meetings of all work packages to ensure synergies across the projects.

TURNkey project
[funded by Horizon
2020]
2019 - 2022

- Taking care of administrative tasks, managing data ethics and data protection issues, including writing ethics applications for internal ethics review.
- Presenting the project results at consortium meetings, meetings with the European Commission, at practitioner workshops, and during academic conferences.

PhD Researcher
Vrije Universiteit
Amsterdam, NL,
2015 – present

Smart Disaster
Governance Project
[funded by the Dutch
Research Council,
NWO]

My PhD research looks at disaster knowledge management in complex emergencies, presenting a novel approach to overcoming the barriers to 'all-of society' engagement that mark established methodologies. It shows how knowledge management structured around collaborative governance and data justice can improve the understanding and management of the social aspects of systemic risk. My thesis is based on ethnographic fieldwork in Ethiopia and Nepal. My advisors are Prof. Kees Boersma and Dr Emmanuel Raju.

- My first published article has been cited by 125 colleagues to date.
- I supervised 7 postgraduate students, conducting fieldwork in Nepal, Colombia, and the Netherlands.
- I obtained a University Teaching Qualification (BKO) in supervision, course design and instruction.

Other Academic Activities

Guest Editor

International Journal
of Disaster Risk
Disaster Reduction
2024- present

Engaging Societal Stakeholders in Disaster Risk Reduction and Research

This special issue presents good practices, reflections, and insights from projects that engage societal stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and research. Its geographical focus is on countries associated with Horizon Europe.

Frontiers in
Communication
2023- present

Dynamic Earthquake Hazard and Risk Communication

A special issue that focuses on the most effective ways to communicate information about earthquake hazard and risk to society, as well as how to involve societal stakeholders in creating effective communication tools and strategies.

Disaster Prevention
and Management
2019 – 2022

Emerging Voices and Pathways to Inclusive Disaster Studies

A special issue that platforms early career researchers in disaster studies, especially those from non-OECD countries.

Board Member
DATAWAR project
2021 – 2023

DATAWAR was a research project ran by SciencesPo Paris, SciencesPo Lille, and Ecole Polytechnique. The project explored how the scientific practices of quantitative analysis of armed conflicts shaped the perception and interpretation of wars by practitioners. I was appointed as a board member.

Reviewer
Various
2016 – present

I act as a reviewer for academic journals, academic funders, and other research related initiatives, including:

- Third World Quarterly
- UNDRR Global Assessment Report 2022
- Better Assistance in Crises (BASIC) Research at Institute of Development Studies
- Journal of Disaster Prevention and Management
- International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction
- Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management
- Journal of International Humanitarian Action
- Journal of Information, Communication and Society
- VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Non-profit Organizations
- Big Data and Society
- Leverhulme Trust

Other professional experience

CARE, District Office West-Hararghe, Ethiopia, 2018	Partnership and Communications Advisor
Centre for Dalit Women Strong Roots Foundation, Nepal, 2016 – 2017	Management Advisor
Essex County Council, Essex UK, 2014 – 2015	Policy and Strategy Advisor
Johns Hopkins University - Carey Business School Project 'Predicting Disruptive Innovation' Remote, 2011 – 2014	Researcher (freelance via Elance)
Tanzania Media and Youth Development Association (TAMEYODA) Remote, 2010 -2012	Research Advisor / Trainer
Help Age International, London, UK, 2009-2010	HIV/AIDS Project Officer
International HIV/AIDS Alliance, Brighton UK, 2007-2009	Programme Assistant for East and South-East Asia

Education

<u>PhD in Organisation Sciences</u> Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, NL, 2015 - present	<u>Postgraduate Diploma Social Science Research Methods</u> Open University, Milton Keynes, UK, 2009 - 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complex emergencies• Social dimensions of systemic risk• Disaster knowledge management• Community based participatory approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Survey research, statistics, SPSS• Ethnographic research methods• Discourse theory and analysis• Social policy
<u>MA Social Anthropology</u> SOAS, University of London, UK, 2005-2006	<u>BA Development Studies and History</u> SOAS, University of London, UK, 2002-2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparative studies in society and culture• Anthropology of development• Theory in social anthropology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modern history of Africa and Asia• International development• Social anthropology

Certificates

Research Ethics in Practice Epigeum 2019	Global Disaster Studies: Past, Present and Future, Copenhagen Centre for Disaster Research 2019	University Teaching Qualification Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam 2019
Participatory Action Research Institute of Development Studies 2018	Communication and Community Engagement in Humanitarian Response CDAC Network 2017	Core Humanitarian Training (Case Study) HumanitarianU 2017
Humanitarian Response to Conflict and Disaster, HarvardX (edX) 2016	Data Analysis and Statistical Inference, Duke University (Coursera) 2014	

Selection of Publications

- Mulder, F. (forthcoming) Disaster knowledge management: a data justice lens on the construction of risk. In Chmutina, K., Rivera, D., and Fuentealba, R. *Principles and Concepts of Disaster Risks* Vol.1
- Mulder, F. (forthcoming) Resilience versus surveillance humanitarianism: how two conflicting paradigms depoliticise aid and affirm the top-down status quo. *Depoliticising Humanitarian Action: Paradigms, Dilemmas, Resistance*. (Eds.) Desportes, I., Corbet., A., Siddiqi, A. Routledge.
- Mulder, F. (2023). Localizing humanitarian knowledge management: A call for pragmatic robust action. In Van Wessel, M., Kontinen, T., and Bawole, J.N. (Eds), *Reimagining Civil Society Collaborations in Development*. (pp. 219-232). Routledge.
- Mulder, F. (2023) The paradox of externally driven localisation: A case study on how local actors manage the contradictory legitimacy requirements of top-down bottom-up aid. *Journal of International Humanitarian Action*, 8(7).
- Jones, K., Mulder, F., Morga, M., & Wanigarathna, N. (2023, November). A Disaster Risk Management Decision Support System for Improved Organisational Resilience: The MEDiate Project. In *The 22nd EuroFM Research Symposium* (p. 107).
- Jones, K. G., Mulder, F., Morga, M., & Wanigarathna, N. (2023, May). Improving organisational resilience: the TURNkey project. In *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science* (Vol. 1176, No. 1, p. 012043). IOP Publishing.
- Wanigarathna, N., Jones, K., Mulder, F., Borzi, B., Bozzoni, F., & Festa, E. (2023, May). Economic appraisal standards for planning earthquake early warning infrastructure acquisition. In *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science* (Vol. 1176, No. 1, p. 012030). IOP Publishing.
- Dryhurst, S., Mulder, F., Dallo, I., Kerr, J. R., McBride, S. K., Fallou, L., & Becker, J. S. (2022). Fighting misinformation in seismology: Expert opinion on earthquake facts vs. fiction. *Frontiers in Earth Science*, 10, 2271.
- Eelaferi C.A., Hendriks E., Kmoch, L. M., Mulder F., & Fuentealba R. (2022). Guest editorial: Emerging voices and pathways to inclusive disaster studies. *Disaster Prevention and Management: An International Journal*. 31 (2): 1-3.
- Eelaferi C.A., Hendriks, E., Kmoch, L.M., Mulder F., & Fuentealba R. (2022). Guest editorial: Exploring inclusive publishing practices with early career disaster-studies researchers. *Disaster Prevention and Management: An International Journal*. 31 (1): 1-9.
- Jones, K. G., Mulder, F., Morga, M., & Wanigarathna, N. (2022, November). Facilities management and earthquake risk reduction: The TURNkey project. In *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science* (Vol. 1101, No. 6, p. 062008). IOP Publishing.
- Jones, K., Mulder, F., Morga, M., & Wanigarathna, N. (2022). Improving organisational resilience to disaster events: an FM perspective. In *Proceedings - 21st EuroFM Research Symposium*
- Mulder, F. (2020). Governing the humanitarian knowledge commons. *Politics and Governance*. 8(4):1-14
- Mulder, F. (2020) Humanitarian Data Justice: A structural data justice lens on civic technologies in post-earthquake Nepal. *Journal of Crisis and Contingency Management*. 28(4): 432-445.
- Boersma, K., Ferguson, J., Groenewegen, P., Mulder, F., Schmidt, A., & Wolbers, J. (2019). Platform governance of self-organized initiatives in response to disasters. Koppejan, J., Karre, P.M., and K. Terrier, K. (eds) *Smart Hybridity. Potentials and Challenges of New Governance Arrangements*, 31-42.
- Mulder, F., & Boersma, F. K. (2017). Linking up the last mile: how humanitarian power relations shape community e-resilience. In *ISCRAM 2017 Conference Proceedings – 14th International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management*.
- Baharmand, H., Boersma, F. K., Meesters, K., Mulder, F., & Wolbers, J. J. (2016). A multidisciplinary perspective on supporting community disaster resilience in Nepal. In *ISCRAM 2016 Conference Proceedings – 13th International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management*.
- Boersma, F. K., Ferguson, J. E., Mulder, F., & Wolbers, J. J. (2016). Humanitarian Response Coordination and Cooperation in Nepal. Coping with challenges and dilemmas. VU Amsterdam. Amsterdam: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
- Mulder, F., Ferguson, J. E., Groenewegen, P., Boersma, F. K., & Wolbers, J. J. (2016). Questioning Big Data: Crowdsourcing crisis data towards an inclusive humanitarian response. *Big Data & Society*, 3(2), 1-13.
- Wolbers, J. J., Boersma, F. K., Ferguson, J. E., Mulder, F., & Groenewegen, P. (2016). Two faces of disaster response: Transcending the dichotomy of control and collaboration during the Nepal Earthquake Relief Operation. *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters*, 34(4 (Special issue on Nepal Earthquake)), 419.