

LUCY LYON (née Gordon)

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Profile:

A documentary maker and media for development consultant with a background of over 10 years experience in print journalism and documentary/drama production for television and radio, with most recent experience providing in-country technical assistance and mentoring for local television and radio teams in Afghanistan, Chad and Niger. A strong communicator, producer and mentor/manager used to collaborative working with both local and international staff.

Key Skills and Experience:

- Advanced written and communication skills (Post Graduate Diploma in Print Journalism)
- Languages: French & Spanish (fluent); Portuguese (operational); Farsi (basic); Arabic (basic)
- Experienced with digital photography, video and audio equipment and software, DSLR, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Lightroom, Multimedia software
- Mentored local production teams in radio/television for behaviour change and social development in Afghanistan and the Sahel
- Built a television department for an INGO headquarters in Afghanistan
- Designed and implemented specific training for: content development, writing chat shows and interview techniques for radio and television

Professional Experience: Media for Development:

April 2010-August 2011: Equal Access (www.equalaccess.org) Programme Manager/Trainer- London and Niamey, Niger: Filmed, produced and directed Equal Access' first video evaluation: *'The Leaders of Change'* showing impact of a USAID-funded Peace Through Development (PDEV) project in Niger. The film was used by USAID, and appears on EA's website. Mentored and coached the local team in participatory radio methodology for three weekly radio series on youth, good governance and religious tolerance. Designed and implemented workshops for content development and storyline ideas, and worked with production staff/presenters to improve and develop writing style and presentation skills for chat shows, and to incorporate feedback and listener views into programming through Frontline SMS. Monitored staff appraisal and assessment systems and helped with recruitment.

January-September 2009: Equal Access Programme Manager N'Djamena, Chad: With local staff, initiated a 3-year, USAID-funded Peace Through Development (PDEV) project in Chad. Organised preliminary stakeholder workshops. Created structures and training that enabled locals to write and produce three weekly radio series on youth, good governance and religious tolerance. Travelled to 5 target regions with the team to train 100 regional community reporters and helped technicians implement a radio-mapping exercise to ascertain the reach and influence of 20 local radio FM stations.

July 2007-January 2009: Equal Access Producer/Program Manager, Kabul, Afghanistan: Managed the 15-strong local content team with EA country director. Procured funding for and built a television department in EA Kabul HQ. Hired, trained and mentored a television team to create dramas and documentaries for

Afghan national television including a 10-part drama series and 30-minute documentary focusing on opiate addiction. Researched, produced and co-directed a 60-minute documentary on opium and heroin addiction in Afghanistan, commissioned by the British Government for international release (see below). Media training and mentoring included content development for long running radio dramas and talk show series, mobile theatre performances, listening groups and roundtable discussions.

Professional Experience: Film and television

May-August 2011: Director/Producer/Camera – ‘The Leaders of Change’: Filmed and directed a 15-minute documentary highlighting the impact of the PDEV program in Niger, based on testimonies of Islamic leaders, local radio producers, and reporters. (See my website: <http://www.lucylyon.com>)

Sept 2008-October 2009: Producer/Co-Director – ‘This is my Destiny’: Produced and co-directed a 1-hour documentary film on opium and heroin use in Afghanistan. The film screened at European and US festivals and is now distributed through Journeyman. (See my website: <http://www.lucylyon.com>)

Feb 2006 – Jan 2007: BBC Assistant Producer – ‘My Life as a Child’ Documentary series for BBC2, looking at Britain today through the eyes of 7-11 year olds.

May 2004 – January 2006: Tiger Aspect Productions Assistant Producer “Robert Newman’s History of Oil” More 4; ‘Hotel on Sea’ BBC 1; ‘Orchestra’ and ‘Brighton’ Pilots for Channel 4.

April – May 2004: Producer/Director/Camera – ‘Follow the Women’ Filmed and directed a 16 minute documentary of a bicycle ride through Lebanon, Syria and Jordan for 300 women from 18 countries. I made the film for the founder of the charity. See: <http://www.followthewomen.com>

September 2003 – April 2004: Hewland International Assistant Producer “Mile High” drama series for Sky One.

October 2002 – August 2003: Granada Television Researcher/Location manager “Real Crime” documentary-dramas for ITV

Professional Experience: Print journalism

June 2007-Jan 2009 Published features in UK press Times 2, Times Scotland, Country Life, Grazia Magazine and Steppe Magazine

Nov 2000 – June 2002: Feature writer/reporter at the Travel Trade Gazette, London.

Voluntary Work:

May 2004: Made ‘Follow the Women’ documentary for the charity (see above)

January-August 1999: Volunteer for ‘Os Meninos de 4 Pinheiros’ safe house and school for street children in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil.

Education:

1999-2000: City University, London. UK: Post Grad Diploma in Periodical Journalism

1994-1998: University of Edinburgh. UK: Joint Hons in French and Spanish (2.1 Distinction in oral Spanish)

1988-1994: Downe House School, Berks. UK 3 A levels (AAB); 13 GCSE (12 grade A, 1 grade B)

References available on request