

**Dr Gezina Dina Margarethe (Gea) Wijers, MSc. MA**  
Zevenaar, 19 May 1972 <http://geawijers.com>



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## Professional History

- 2014-now**     **Owner: Wijers Community-based Consulting (WCbC)**  
Consultancy firm specializing in Research, Strategy & Communication.  
Projects (also see <http://geawijers.com>), among others.:  
\* Project development of the European funded (MSCA-RISE) DiasporaLink research project  
\* Agence Belge de Développement (CTB). Project: "Appui à la stratégie nationale en faveur des Marocains Résidant à l'Etranger"  
\* Juror for the selection of remigrant entrepreneurs for NGO SPARK entrepreneurship  
\* Strategic planning and communication plan for NGO Radio La Benevolencija's worldwide projects
- 2015-2019**     **Postdoc (parttime): Community-based research in Indonesia and Thailand for Wageningen University & Research: the LIQUID program (liquidprogram.net)**  
Local and international business collaboration (a.o. Wageningen University, Agriterra, Royal FrieslandCampina) for gender inclusive productivity and quality improvement in food value chains in Thailand, Indonesia, Tanzania and Kenya.
- 2013-4**         **Tutor (parttime)**  
Erasmus University College, Rotterdam
- 2009-13**        **PhD candidate**, Dept. of Organization Science, VU University Amsterdam  
Dissertation: *Navigating a River by its Bends. A comparison of Cambodian Returnees' contributions to the transformation of Cambodia.*
- 2006-9**         **Founding member Cambodia Research Group**  
Integrated Program: Competing Hegemonies. <http://cambodiaresearch.org>  
**Student assistant and Lecturer (Writing NWO-WOTRO proposal)**  
Dept. of Political Sciences, Dept. of Organization Studies, VU University Amsterdam
- 2005-6**         **Strategy and Communication advisor**  
Manager of the Community Protected Area Development Office (CPADO), Ministry of Environment, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, for the Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO).
- 2003-5**         **Managing partner, Senior consultant & Trainer**  
STAD Office for Urban Consultancy. Organizational advisory of Dutch city councils (Leiden, Apeldoorn, Groningen) on the integrated management of public space.
- 2000-3**         **Project manager**  
Boer & Croon Strategy and Management Group, Young Executives
- 1998-2000**      **Planning & Control operative**  
District De Baarsjes, Amsterdam, Financial Dept.

## Education

- 2015-2016** **Courses: *Evaluating Philanthropic Organizations / Philanthropy / Management of a Philanthropic Organization***, VU Amsterdam
- 2014** ***Advanced Course Social Network Analysis***, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (MI) USA.  
***Course Networked Life***, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia (PA), USA.
- 2013** ***Certificate Problem-based Learning***, Erasmus University College, Rotterdam
- 2009-13** ***PhD candidate***, Dept. of Organization Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, VU University Amsterdam. Multiple doctorate courses and masterclasses, including Social Network theory, VISTA documentary making for anthropologists and University Teaching Qualification (BKO).
- 2006-7** ***International MSc. Political Science***, VU University Amsterdam  
Specialization: International Relations. Thesis: *Civic culture re-evaluated. Political culture in the Philippines*
- 2001-3** ***MBA*** based program Nyenrode Business University, Breukelen  
Including modules in Strategy, Marketing and Project management.
- 1991-8** ***MA Art History***, University Leiden and VU University Amsterdam  
Specialization: 20<sup>th</sup> century Architecture and City-planning. Thesis: *The history of the Wibautstraat, the ugliest street in Amsterdam.*
- 1992-7** ***MSc. Anthropology in Organizations***, VU University Amsterdam  
Specialization: Intercultural Communication. Thesis: *Perspectives on the Relevance of Cross-cultural Management strategies.*
- 1990-1** ***BA Law*** University Leiden

## Awarded funding and positions (among others)

- 2012 Visiting Researcher at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley with the support of the Graduate School, Faculty of Social Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
- 2009 PhD grant (50%), NWO-WOTRO Science for Development organization through the Cambodia Research Group & CCSS PhD grant (50%), VU Amsterdam.

## Extracurricular activities

- (2017-8) Trainer at the Marrakech “African Youth Leadership Summit”  
(2015) Business Committee BoHo Players, a socially engaged string orchestra  
(2013) Reviewer for *Cooperation and Conflict* (ISSN: 0010-8367).  
Expert discussant at the IDFA documentary festival, Amsterdam.  
(2003-5) Member of the National Board, Project manager, Democrats 66 political party.

## Languages

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|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dutch                      | Native                               |
| English                    | Fluent in speech and writing         |
| French & German            | Fluent in speech, mediate in writing |
| Khmer, Thai and Indonesian | Beginners level speech and writing   |

## Relevant Publications

### Published

1. "Determinants of the Digital Divide: A study on IT development in Cambodia", *Technology in Society* (2010), doi:10.1016/j.techsoc.2010.10.011.
2. "The Reception of Cambodian Refugees in France", *Journal of Refugee Studies* (May 2011), Vol. 24, Issue 2, doi:10.1093/jrs/FER008. (5 year Impact Factor:0.956)
3. Available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2013.782058>. (2012 Impact Factor: 1.169)
4. "Immigrant communities as resources for emancipation. A comparison of bounded solidarity in two Cambodian communities", *Journal of Migration and Development*, May 2013. Available at <http://www.tandonline.com/doi/labs/10.1080/21632324.2013.773154>.
5. "Contributions to transformative change in Cambodia. A study on returnees as institutional entrepreneurs", *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, 2013, Vol.32, Issue 1, pp. 3-27.
6. "Brokering, building and bargaining for the transformation of Cambodia. A study on Cambodian French returnees as institutional entrepreneurs", *International Journal of Institutions and Economies*, 2013, Vol.5, Issue 3, pp. 75-96.
7. "Beyond democracy..? Questioning transformative change in emerging nations: the case of Cambodia", *Amsterdam Social Science*, 2014, Vol. 6, Issue 1.
8. "Navigating a River by its Bends: A study on transnational networks as resources for the transformation of Cambodia", *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (Printed Edition) August 2014, Vol. 39, Issue 9.
9. Book chapter "The Opportunity Structures of Cambodian French institutional entrepreneurs. A study on returnees' contributions to transformative change". in: I.N. Aflaki, E. Petridou and L. Miller (eds) *Entrepreneurship in the Polis. Understanding Political Entrepreneurship*, February 2015, London: Ashgate, pp. 191-204.
10. "Refugee remigrant entrepreneurship: an institutional analysis. Comparing constraints and facilitators in Cambodia and Rwanda", *MDE Workshop on Refugee Entrepreneurship Proceedings*, July 2017.
11. "Empowerment in an Indonesian dairy cooperative. An institutional exploration", *Practicing the Commons. Self-governance, cooperation and institutional change Proceedings*. XVI Biennial Conference of the International Association for the Study of the Commons, Utrecht July 2017.
12. "Chapter 6. Framing Cambodian Affairs: French and American Scholarship, Media and Geopolitics (1975-1989)" in: Albert Tzeng (ed) *Framing 'Asian Studies': Geopolitics, Institutions and Networks*, ISEAS Publishing, 2018, pp. 120-141.
13. "Unsettled: Cambodian refugees in the New York City Hyperghetto" Book review in: *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, June 2017 and January 2018 in paper version <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2017.1332381>
14. "Inequality regimes in Indonesian dairy cooperatives: understanding institutional barriers to gender equality", *Agriculture and Human Values*, 2018, 1-15. 10.1007/s10460-018-09908-9
15. "The Migration and Development nexus in Morocco: An embedded study of French, German and Dutch returnee entrepreneurship support", *Migration and Development*, 2019. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/21632324.2019.1684043>
16. "A Comparison of Cooperative Ecosystems", *Review of Applied Socio-Economic Research*, 2019, forthcoming.
17. Bijman, Jos and Gea Wijers, "Exploring the inclusiveness of the cooperative business", *Current Issues in Sustainability Studies (COSUST)*, 2019.

### Under review

1. "The clash of logics in Thai agrarian change. How institutional barriers impede innovation in an emerging dairy nation, *Asian Politics and Policy*, 2019. (in review)
2. "Moroccan migration: the transition from emigration to immigration", *Journal of North African Studies*, 2019. (in review)

3. Wijers, Gea and Jos Bijman (2019) "CSR arrangements in Indonesia: business-government relationships in the emerging dairy sector.", *Journal of Business Ethics*. (Revision and Resubmit)

Published articles in other media (among others)

1. "Les Khmers de France", *Cambodge Soir* (Augustus 2010), Phnom Penh.
2. "En France, une communauté khmère 'dans l'ombre' ", *Cambodge Soir* (September 2010), Phnom Penh.
3. *Standplaats Wereld*, accessible on: <http://standplaatswereld.nl/tag/gea-wijers/>
4. Contributions to [www.khmerican.com](http://www.khmerican.com) (May 2012-May 2013).
5. "Cambodian returnees' contributions to transformative change", *IIAS Newsletter* (September 2013)
6. "A new generation of Cambodian film makers: carefully approaching an absent center" (2014), *KITLV-IDFA newsletter*, Leiden.
7. "Coming full circle: Migrant and remigrant entrepreneurs", *The Broker online* (September 2014) contribution to expert debate on entrepreneurship and migration.
8. Blogs and comments on diversity of social media (LinkedIn, <http://geawijers.com>) (2014-present)
9. "Rise of the Cambodian Entrepreneur", *IIAS Newsletter, special issue: Politics and Society in Contemporary Cambodia*, September 2017.

Published books

1. *Zwemmen in een nieuw aquarium. Berichten uit Cambodja*, Zoetermeer: Freemusketeers (2009)  
*Swimming uncharted waters. Reports from Cambodia*, Amsterdam: ABC (2011)
2. *Navigating a River by its Bends. A Comparison of Cambodian Returnees' Contributions to the Transformation of Cambodia*. Amsterdam: VU Press (2013), ISBN: 9789 0865 96478

In the process of publication

Van Kemenade, Erik and Gea Wijers, *Those who came back. Second generation children of Cambodian refugees reconnecting with Cambodia*, NUS Press (2019).