TIM HUDSON · SENIOR EU AND UN POLICY ADVISER AND SPECIALIST · LUXEMBOURG

Finding what works in public policy, and helping people do it better across the world

A multidisciplinary senior adviser and a specialist for focused assignments: EU policy expertise, shared across Europe and applied internationally for FAO, UNDP and partner governments.

230+
EU good practice cases researched, written or edited in two years (2025–26)

30
EU CAP Network Policy Insights launched and written

98
New European Bauhaus projects evaluated in 2026

3 decades
of project, programme and policy expertise, inside and outside public funding systems

152
policy articles published on LinkedIn

From the Atlantic to the Pacific
FAO work across the whole Europe and Central Asia region, plus UNDP from the Western Balkans to the Maldives

Senior advisory and specialist roles

Policy and Good Practice Expert
Finding and transferring what works between countries

Knowledge Exchange and Network Expert or Team Leader
Peer learning, networks and good practice databases

Financial Instruments and Public Investment Expert
Better valuation, bigger numbers, and 'big ticket' patient capital for public benefits

Environment, Climate and Rural Development Expert
Biodiversity, climate, natural resources, agrifood, LEADER, small island states

Evaluation and Foresight Expert or Team Leader
Ex-ante, mid-term and outcome evaluation, impact metrics, SCAR foresight

EU Delegation Contract and Policy Dialogue Expert
Managing EU contracts and helping Delegations build better policy

Luxembourgish and British (EU citizen). Home-based and missions worldwide. English mother tongue, French working knowledge.

office@hudson.lu · www.hudson.lu · ORCID 0009-0005-2766-0388

WORK, FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHY ONLINE

LinkedIn Articles

YouTube EU and UN films

Instagram Reels

Facebook Company page



Global perspectives Photo library

Areas of expertise and their evidence

Policy good practice

- First 30 EU CAP Network Policy Insights, launched and written (2022–24) Published
- 230+ good practice cases researched, written or edited in 2025–26, from 20+ EU countries Published
- Technical Writer for two FAO ministerial papers for Europe and Central Asia (2022). The cleared texts keep much of the original drafting Published
- Policy recommendations and investment priorities drawn from programme evidence, for ministries and EU institutions
- Expert panel adviser, UNDP review of development results in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Networks and knowledge exchange

- EU rural development network from its 2008 launch. Co-designed its project database, launched the EU Rural Review Reference
- Ran the EU's LEADER newsletter (2019–2025) and wrote, managed or advised on key LEADER publications
- EIB fi-compass ERDF and ESF case studies and peer learning for managing authorities (2015–19) Reference
- Scottish LEADER Network Secretary Reference
- EU CAP Network good practice expert since 2019, with LAGs and national networks
- Civil service training in project cycle management, logframes and monitoring, Lithuania and Poland

Environment, climate and biodiversity

- Eight years reporting on EU LIFE nature and climate projects Reference
- Results-based biodiversity payments. Toolbox for the Commission and film series for the European Parliament Contract
- Policy Insights on climate mitigation, eco-schemes, water efficiency, habitat connectivity, pollinators, agroforestry and genetic resources Published
- Hundreds of cases on soils, water, carbon farming, wildfire resilience, forests and the bioeconomy
- Degrees covering ecology, forest ecosystems, nature conservation and environmental impact assessment

Food systems and foresight

- A lead writer, SCAR Sixth Foresight on diets, circularity, diversity, land and water (2025–26)
- Syntheses of national data focused planning of Kazakhstan's Convergence Action Blueprint, the first Convergence Initiative pilot, bringing agriculture inside national climate policy (FAO, 2024) Contract
- UN coalition brief on the food impacts of the war in Ukraine, for UN Country Teams (FAO, 2022) Contract
- Co-wrote FAO's 2024 brief on aligning food systems and climate agendas for 17 countries Contract
- Good practice cases on short supply chains, food labelling, food loss and waste, and animal welfare

Financial instruments and public investment

- Desk officer for two EU-funded rural revolving funds in Scotland, from set-up to operation (2000–04)
- EIB financial instruments advisory, with four Commission DGs and the European Investment Fund, and a large EU technical assistance tender (2015–19) Reference
- EU financial instrument models for Uzbekistan's Ministry of Agriculture (2021–23) and FAO Kazakhstan (2024)
- InvestEU analysis comparing implementing partners and farmers' financing terms (2022) Published
- The core idea, public money underwriting 'big ticket' patient capital for public benefits
- SCAR foresight inputs on true cost accounting to value research and attract bigger investors (2025–26)
- FAO paper ERC/22/2, simpler instruments drawing private investment to smallholders (2022) Published

Rural, island and territorial development

- FAO LEADER roster, International Technical Specialist on LEADER for Montenegro (2025–) Roster
- EU CAP Network LEADER newsletter and island good practice, Aegean to the Canaries (2026) Published
- LEADER Local Action Group coordinator. Its village method became a LEADER Observatory case study, now retold with ten lessons (1995–2000) Reference
- ERDF Programme Manager in a €308 million Objective 1 programme, Highlands and Islands, and LEADER evaluation for war returnees in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 98 New European Bauhaus projects evaluated for towns, villages and small municipalities (2026) Contract
- Small islands: UNDP Maldives quality control on climate finance and loss and damage, plus island tourism films

Evaluation and impact metrics

- UNDP evaluation team leader, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and two UNDP evaluations in Georgia References
- Ex-ante evaluation of Lithuania's EU funds and first LEADER strategies, rated 5 of 5 Reference
- Evaluator, EU Agricultural and Rural Inspiration Awards and New European Bauhaus Prizes
- Ex-post evaluation of 2000–06 Rural Development Programmes
- Gender and equal opportunities assessment of all EU-funded projects in Scotland (1995–2004)

Communication as a delivery tool

- EIB fi-compass knowledge management lead. Websites, campaigns, films, journalism Reference
- Uzbekistan: a plan for farmers, a visibility machine, speeches and EU films
- English-language editorial adviser to the UNDP Resident Representative in the Maldives
- Edited the Commission President's Rural Vision Week film, and films with the EU Ambassador in Uzbekistan
- Own photo and drone library, and remote production with local crews

Career

2019 – today · Senior Adviser, Tim Hudson Consultancy
EU rural networks (ENRD, then EU CAP Network) · EU Delegation programme in Uzbekistan via DT Global · FAO Europe and Central Asia · UN Food Systems Coordination Hub · UNDP Maldives · New European Bauhaus Prizes · SCAR foresight · DevelopmentAid

2015 – 2019 · European Investment Bank
Financial Instruments Advisory Services. Communications and capacity building for the fi-compass platform

2007 – 2015 · EU networks and programmes
European Network for Rural Development Contact Point · EU LIFE programme · results-based payment films for the European Parliament and DG Environment

2007 – 2008 · UNDP international consultant
Evaluations and advice in Georgia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia

2004 – 2006 · Bradley Dunbar Associates
Helped roll out Lithuania's first national ERDF programme; EU accession advice in Poland and Romania

2000 – 2004 · Highlands and Islands Partnership Programme
ERDF Programme Manager in a €308 million Objective 1 programme for remote and island communities, incl. two revolving funds

1994 – 2000 · LEADER in the Scottish Highlands
Ex-ante evaluation, then coordinator of the Local Action Group, now a 2026 case study with ten lessons

Where

Region	Work
All EU Member States	EU rural networks, EIB fi-compass, EU LIFE, New European Bauhaus, SCAR foresight
Europe and Central Asia	FAO regional work from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Uzbekistan (EU Delegation programme), Kazakhstan (Convergence Action Blueprint planning)
Small island states	Maldives (UNDP), plus EU islands and Caribbean good practice
Caucasus and Western Balkans	Georgia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro
Baltics and Central Europe	Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Romania

Qualifications

MSc with Distinction, Rural and Regional Resources Planning, University of Aberdeen · BSc with Distinction, Rural Resources, Napier University and Scottish Agricultural College · Higher Certificate in Applied Photography and Audio-Visual Technology

FROM WRITTEN REFERENCES

"His long experience with EU funding systems and practical knowledge of digital communication techniques has been appreciated by us at EIB."

European Investment Bank
Financial Instruments Advisory

"Tim possessed good organisational skills as Team Leader and his knowledge of EU methodologies regarding partnership development support were very useful for our on-going work."

UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina
SUTRA programme

"He is equally adept at shaping partnerships and processes at strategic level, as well as providing sound practical advice at the grass roots."

LEADER Local Action Group
Inverness and Nairn, Scotland

Publications, films and references

Work	What it shows
EU RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORKS	
EU CAP Network Policy Insights	Launched the series and wrote the first 30 editions, on food systems, climate, water, biodiversity, gender, small farms, LEADER and investment
EU CAP Network Good Practice database	230+ cases from more than 20 countries, 2025–26, in a database whose ENRD forerunner Tim co-designed
EU Rural Review and EAFRD Projects Brochures	Launched and edited for the European Network for Rural Development, incl. the 2011 Leader projects brochure and the EU Rural Review 29 innovation chapter (2020)
LEADER II case study (2026)	Thirty years on, ten practical lessons for community-led local development, with the original 1996–99 documents · DOI 10.5281/zenodo.24246021
EU LEADER newsletter	The EU's official LEADER newsletter, 2019–2025, as editor, producer and adviser, plus input to the 2024 guidelines on assessing LEADER's added value
EU Rural YouTube channel	Films incl. Rural Vision Week, the Commission President's message and rural good practice films from across Europe
ENVIRONMENT, NATURE AND CLIMATE	
Results-based agri-environment payments (RBAPS) film series	Paying farmers for measurable biodiversity results, filmed for the European Parliament and DG Environment
EU LIFE publications and LIFE films	Eight years of nature and climate reporting, incl. LIFE and human coexistence with large carnivores
FINANCE AND THE UN	
fi-compass	EIB and Commission guidance, training films and ERDF and ESF case studies: start-up equity in Saxony (€60m), home renovation loans in Estonia (€67m), microcredit in Campania (€100m)
FAO ERC/22/2 and ERC/22/3	Ministerial papers written as FAO Technical Writer, on agrifood transformation, simplified financial instruments and food value chains for nutrition (2022)
Kazakhstan Convergence Action Blueprint	The first Convergence Initiative pilot, bringing agriculture inside national climate policy. Syntheses distilled from a mass of national data focused its planning on key topics and helped unblock finalisation (FAO, 2024)
UNDP Maldives publications	Future-Forward Financing · Loss and Damage Economic Bulletin · Values in Crisis · Liveability Index of Hulhumalé · Strengthening the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem
EVALUATION AND EXPERT WRITING	
Agricultural and Rural Inspiration Awards and New European Bauhaus Prizes	Evaluator of EU award entries against results, innovation, sustainability, inclusion and gender criteria
DevelopmentAid expert articles	Associate Writer since 2024 on food loss and waste, blue economy finance, agrifood governance and evaluation
MORE	
Films	EU, EIB and UN films, island tourism good practice series and EAFRD finance videos with more than 16,000 views
LinkedIn articles	152 articles on public investment, networks, nature and food systems
Global perspectives	Own aerial and documentary photography from Europe and beyond
Written references	Quoted from the EIB, the EU rural development network, AEIDL, UNDP, national ministries and a Scottish LEADER group. Letters on request

Ideas for better public investment

Recent articles on how public money, networks and evidence can deliver more for people and nature.

Better decisions

- Four questions that could help public investment deliver more
- Better decisions start with better comparisons
- From detailing delivery to proving value

The next EU funding generation

- Financial instruments designed to put themselves out of business
- NextGen fi-compass
- From funding Europe's development to developing Europe's funding

Nature, climate and true value

- Digital twins and true cost accounting
- What can we learn from Europe's LIFE signs?
- Forest governance models and climate finance

Public value beyond the farm gate

- What do we actually buy when we invest in a farm?
- Turning public value into new investment opportunities
- Qualitative impacts as collateral

Networks and international cooperation

- When international cooperation really works
- The value of national connections
- Preparing for a wider Europe

Food systems and islands

- Why Convergence Action Blueprints matter
- EU policy lessons for mainland and island states
- Grow protein to grow prosperity

Working together

Assignments

Expert, key expert or team leader roles for EU institutions, EU Delegations, UN agencies, development banks and consultancies.

Ways of working

Home-based from Luxembourg with missions worldwide. Comfortable in multinational teams and multi-country assignments.

Deliverables

Policy analysis, evaluations, good practice, guidance, training, ministerial papers and multimedia products to EU and UN standards.

Clients and partners

European Commission (agriculture, environment, regional policy, research, employment and maritime departments) · European Parliament · European Investment Bank Group · EU Delegations and Team Europe · FAO · UNDP · UN Food Systems Coordination Hub · national ministries of agriculture and finance · development consultancies including DT Global

Working on an EU, UN or development bank assignment?

The offer combines policy good practice, networks, financial instruments, environmental knowhow and evaluation, with the communication skills to make results usable.

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linkedin.com/in/tim-hudson-luxembourg · ORCID 0009-0005-2766-0388

