

## Objective

To learn from nomadic communities and develop alternative solutions to the existing settled models of development (i.e. urbanisation) for a more sustainable future.

## Academic qualifications

2007-2008	London School of Economics and Political Science MSc Urbanisation and Development  Subject of dissertation: "Global Nomads or Temporary Citizens: Transnational Mobility of 'Middling' Iranians".
1991-2001	Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran Master's of Architecture and Urbanism, Graduated with Honours  Subject of dissertation: "Research and Proposal for a Metropolis in Crisis; Design of Residential Complexes within the Urban Context of Tehran".

## Civil Society Experiences

- CENESTA (Center for Sustainable Development and Environment), Tehran, Iran  
An NGO with broad activities including work on "Sustainable Nomadic Livelihoods".

Project manager

Dec 2004 -Present

Identified and analyzed comparison of three systems of natural resource management

A multi-disciplinary Participatory Action Research on three rangeland management techniques (Customary, Governmental, and Non Equilibrium Ecosystems approach) with participation of the Qashqai nomads and support of FRWO and UNDP-DDC

Project manager

Dec 2004 -Present

Protection of Kushk-E Zar Wetland Towards A Community Conserved Area

With the participation of the Qashqai nomads and support of DoE and UNDP-GEF/SGP Including Participatory Mapping activities and Documentation of Local Traditional Knowledge

Project Manager

Nov2006 -Present

Farsi translation of PLA 54 magazine for inclusion in international CD with support of FRWO, Iran

Finding national sponsors for the project, coordination with IIED and other international sponsors, co-translation and co-editing

Author

Aug 2006 -Oct 2006

Preparation of presentation of participatory mapping activities for inclusion in FAO CD

Co-author

Jan 2006 -Mar 2006

Lessons from the experience of Land Reforms in Iran: impact of nationalisation of rangelands on nomadic pastoralism

Paper prepared for ICARRD Conference, Porto Alegre, Brazil, Supported by FAO

## Private Sector Experiences

- FIAC, Tehran, Iran

Member of Design Team  
Farabi Performance Arts Center Apr 2005 -May 2005

- Dubarch Architects, Engineers, Dubai, UAE

Project Architect, Resident Engineer  
Complex of Loft offices, Dubai Media City Jun 2001 -Mar 2004

Project Architect, Resident Engineer  
Leo Burnette Office Building, Dubai Media City Oct 2001 -Mar 2004

- FIAC, Tehran, Iran

Member of Design Team  
Saba Residential Complex Mar 1997 -Mar 1998

Member of Design and Construction Team  
Tehran International Conference Center Aug 1996 -Feb 1997

Member of Design and Research Team  
The Museum of Cinema Feb 1995 -Jun 1996

- Zineh & Ziste-Jazayer Consultants, Tehran, Iran

Co-Designer  
Office tower for Shiroodi Stadium & Sports Complex Feb 1993 -Jan 1995

Designer  
Headquarters for Alborz Cable Company Feb 1993 -Jan 1995

## Academic and Research Activities

- Guest Jury for the School of Architecture and Design, American University of Sharjah, UAE, Mar2004.
- Tutor and Teacher's Assistant in "Geometry and Perspective II" courses, Shahid Beheshti University, 1993-96.
- Tutor and Teacher's Assistant in "Geometry and Perspective III" courses, Shahid Beheshti University, 1993-96.
- Participation in research and presentation for "The Magic Squares" lecture for The House of Artists in Tehran, presented in 2000.
- Researcher and Production Assistant "Tehran Architecture Today" Television Documentary, Broadcast in 1994.
- Photography, Video documentation, Bandar Imam Port project.

## Selected Publications

- “Nomadism; Glimpses”. In: *Letters from Tentland*, Suzanne Vincenz (ed). pp. 58-65. Bielefeld, Transcript Verlag.
- “From Design Advice to Peer Review: The Role of the Urban Design Panel in Vancouver”, Translated for *Me'mar* architectural magazine, March 2005.
- “Post-modern architecture”, Ali Khonsari, Pooneh Ghoddoosi and Pooya Ghoddousi, *Abadgaran* magazine, 1996.

## Conferences, Workshops, Short Courses

- “Status and Potentials of Renewable Energy Technologies in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Jordan, Iran and Morocco”, Beirut, Lebanon 9-10 February 2007.
  - Presenting Iran’s case and CENESTA’s renewable energies projects with nomadic pastoralists.
- “Mapping for Change: International Conference on Spatial Information Management and Communication, PGIS’05, Nairobi, Kenya 7-10 September 2005
  - Active participation through different activities such as:
    - Rapporteur of one of the 3 working groups for the main plenary.
    - Member of the editorial team of the Daily Digest PGIS’05
    - Presenting CENESTA’s activities with aid of publications and multimedia
- Training course on “Participatory GIS and mapping applied to Resource Management” Nairobi, Kenya, 29 August – 10 September 2005
  - Presented a PowerPoint of CENESTA’s experiences in Participatory Mapping.
  - Certificate obtained.
  - Member of the editorial team of the Daily Digest (official newsletter of the conference).
- Geographical Information Systems. An introduction to Arcview GIS software. LSE September to December 2007.
- International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD), March 07-10, 2006, Porto Alegre, Brazil.
  - Attending parallel Forums Organized By IPC and Via Campesina (“Land, Territory, Dignity”) with presence of Qashqai pastoral nomads.
  - Attending an International Land Coalition session (“Administering Land Rights: Alternatives to Individual Property Ownership”) as official discussant.
- International Conference on World Wetlands Day, Zabol, Iran, February 2006
  - Presented a PowerPoint with participation of local nomadic communities
- Architecture in the Gulf Region, Conference in the American University of Dubai 2004

**Languages**

Persian: Native  
English (Written and Spoken): Fluent  
Arabic (Fus-ha): Intermediate  
Turkish (Azeri): Basic  
French (Written): Basic

**Softwares**

Microsoft Office Word, Powerpoint, Outlook, Excell: Proficient  
Autocad: Proficient  
Adobe Photoshop: Proficient  
Arcview GIS: Intermediate