

Tatyana El-Kour PhD, MA, MS, RDN, FAND

Strategist | Humanitarian & Development Expert | Researcher

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TATYANA EL-KOUR

BIO

Recognized expert and thought leader in population health and nutrition. A champion of systems' thinking. Highly skilled at innovating frameworks to transform processes and leverage technology to maximize effectiveness and outcomes. For 24 years, Dr. El-Kour has delivered progressive strategies integrating and aligning complex humanitarian and development programs and projects on behalf of the United Nations, international, governmental and non-governmental agencies with a behavior change focus. More recently, Dr. El-Kour's technical specialty has evolved to address the changing healthcare and food systems landscape, incorporating media psychology and technology to population health and humanitarian programming to effect regulatory and policy changes and drive population behavior change.



www.tatyanaelkour.com



tatyana.elkour@gmail.com



Tatyanaelkour



Check out my
ORCID ID

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Psychology (2015 – 2021)

With a concentration in Media Psychology.

Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, CA

Additional doctoral concentration track: Social Impact of Mobile Media and Immersive Technology on Health Behavior Change.

Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, CA

Master of Arts in Psychology (2015 – 2018)

With a concentration in Media Psychology.

Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, CA

Combined Master of Science and Dietetic (2003 – 2005)

Residency in Medical Nutrition Therapy and Policy.

Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA

Bachelor of Science/Pre-medical Track (2001 – 2003)

General Dietetics.

Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

Bachelor of Science (1995 – 1999)

Nutrition & Food Technology

University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan

SKILLS

- Program & Policy Development
- Social & Behavior Change Communication
- Nutrition Specific & Sensitive Programming
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Nutrition Research & Analysis
- Strategic Planning
- Operations Leadership
- New Media & Public Relations
- Training & Presentations
- Implementation & Outcome Research
- Proposals
- Reporting
- Budget
- Performance Management
- Data & Information Management
- Problem Solving
- Social Marketing
- Collateral Development
- Advertising
- Media Innovation & Social Impact
- Health & Nutrition Communication
- Cognitive Science

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Ph.D.

- 2018 recipient of The Michael R. Neal Legacy Award in recognition of collaboration, scholarship, innovation, and advocacy.
- 2017 recipient of the Worldwide Network for Gender Empowerment Research Fellowship.
- 2016 recipient of the Wagenheim Endowed Scholarship for International Doctoral Students.

Masters

- 2005 Rebecca Roubenoff Award for Excellence in Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics, Tufts University and Tufts Medical Centre.
- 2005 Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy Graduation Class Valedictorian.
- 2004 Frances Stern Nutrition Centre Summer Scholarship.
- 2003 Frances Stern Nutrition Centre First Year Intern Scholarship, Tufts Medical Centre.
- 2003 First International Nutritionist/Dietitian Award, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation.

Bachelors

- Dean's honor list.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, developing tools for effective online.
- Learning and implementing nutrition and dietetic related issues into course curriculum.
- Clinical Nutrition Traineeship, Royal Medical Services, Amman, Jordan.

CAREER EXPERIENCES

Aga Khan Foundation – Global (2022 – Present)

Global Advisor, Nutrition - Switzerland (2022 – Present)





Refines and executes an organization-wide nutrition strategy that spans multi-disciplinary integration of nutrition priorities across Aga Khan Foundation programming: Health, Agriculture and Food Security, Gender Equality, Work and Enterprise, Climate Resilience, Early Childhood Development, Education, and Civil Society. Offers technical support and strategic insights to field units spanning countries in Central and South Asia, East and South Africa, and the Middle East and North Africa, strengthening program design and resource mobilization to create and sustain partnerships with Aga Khan Development Network sector leads, endline uses of nutrition programming, and integration with donor strategies.

Action Against Hunger – Multiple Locations (2016 – 2022)

Health and Nutrition Coordinator for Syria Mission - Syria (2018 – 2022)

- Designed, oversaw, coordinated technical leadership and management of health, mental health, nutrition, and care practice programming with a focus on integrated primary healthcare support, multisectoral engagement, healthcare management, nutrition, healthy lifestyle promotion, mental health and psychosocial support for emergency relief and early recovery within Syria.

LANGUAGES

English	
Arabic	
French	
Spanish	

EXPERTISE

- Positive & Media Psychology
- Dietetics & Metabolism
- Hunger
- Behavior Change
- Clinical Nutrition & Evaluation
- Immersive Technologies
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- Healthcare System
- Research Methodologies
- Advocacy & Funding
- Team Building & Leadership
- Public Health Communication
- Food & Nutrition Policy
- Media Innovation
- Food, Nutrition & Primary Healthcare Programming
- Social & Media Impact
- Disease Promotion & Injury Prevention
- Public Speaking

SOFTWARE APPS

- Microsoft Suite
- EndNote
- Mendeley
- Zotero
- Dedoose
- NVivo
- Netlytic

- Managed multimillion dollar budgets for health and nutrition programs relevant to key donors, including BHA/OFDA, OCHA, SDC, SIDA, GAC, and AECID.
- Established and managed staff at high retention rate.
- Negotiated with key stakeholders (donors, authorities, international and national partners, counterparts, beneficiaries, and other external actors) in relation to needs and interventions.

Nutrition Coordinator for Lebanon Mission – Lebanon (2017 - 2017)

- Led negotiation efforts with national and United Nations counterparts and guided policies related to nutritional program development for Action Against Hunger, while increasing advocacy efforts, funding, and visibility for nutrition sensitive and specific initiatives.
- Provided technical and operational leadership in building field teams that could manage emergency and sustainable nutritional needs. Built capacity of local staffing in relation to needs and interventions.

Regional Nutrition Officer - Middle East Region – Jordan (2016 - 2016)

Collaborated in leading Syria's nutrition response system that included strengthening advocacy, funding, and profile-raising efforts for this crisis, while providing essential support for the refugees. Led negotiation, mediation, advocacy, and technical efforts for emergency and sustainable nutrition projects in the Middle East region, and Syrian environment.

redr uk – Multiple Locations (2017 – 2023)

Associate Trainer and Expert Consultant

- Delivered part-time independent consulting services for evidence based, gender-focused, multicultural, mediation, facilitation, training, and course development services targeting humanitarian programmatic leadership and management, proposal and report writing, monitoring and evaluation, basic and advanced project cycle management, public health, mental health, and the social factors related to health, program development, referral pathways, evaluations, surveys, monitoring, and impact assessments.
- Co-developed and delivered a series of online course modules during 2020 on special topic areas within the context of COVID-19 in the Middle East and North Africa region, including stress management, basic and advanced mental health support, gender and inclusion, basic risk communication and community engagement, and developed the advanced risk communication and community engagement module.

World Health Organization – Multiple Locations (2005 – 2015)

International Technical Officer, Eastern Mediterranean Regional Director's Office - Egypt (2012 – 2015)

- Offered strong leadership and management efforts within the Office of the Regional Director, Eastern Mediterranean Regional office in Cairo, Egypt, leveraging decades of experience in public and private organizations, throughout tenure.
- Filled many roles due to success in negotiations, coordination, and execution of high-level dialogues and complex projects related to public health policies and programs, including mental health, in addition to Regional Committee meetings, and high-level meetings on saving the lives of mothers and children (2013), and the high-level regional forum on physical activity (2014).

National Professional Officer – Jordan (2008 – 2012)

- Championed expert design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of local public health policies and programs, including food/nutrition program development.
- Advised on and drafted concept papers, research proposals, technical and progress reports in collaboration with program staff. Created/reviewed materials to raise regional/national awareness and advocacy efforts for scientists, health care professionals, students, patients, and the public, including intranet/internet data, press releases, op-ed columns in national/regional newspapers, and social media tools.

Technical Officer – Jordan (2006 –2008)

- Developed, supported, and analyzed implementation of national nutrition, macroeconomic, and public health strategies.
- Spearheaded nutrition and community-based initiatives in related programs, including non-communicable diseases, reproductive health, and emergency relief.

Nutrition & Food Policy Advisor – Jordan (2005 – 2006)

Led the organization design, implementation, advocacy, monitoring, and evaluation of local food and nutrition policies/programs.

Private Clinical Practice (2005 – 2022)

Consultant, Clinical Nutrition – Jordan (2005 – 2012). Virtual Clinic (2016 – 2022)

Provided direct nutrition-focused physical assessment, diagnosis, care and monitoring to individuals and disadvantaged groups, including prevention and management of multiple macronutrient (protein and energy malnutrition) and micronutrient (iron, zinc, calcium, vitamins A, B, C, D and E, iodine, selenium, copper) deficiencies, fluid and electrolyte imbalances, drug-nutrient, and food-related interactions, behavior change management, and diverse health and diet related challenges. Observed patient care, advised on best evidence-based practices and customized products and treatment protocols.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES

- **Metabolic Nutrition Research Technician** USDA Jean Mayer Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University, Boston, MA.
- **Menu & Recipe Analyst** Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA.
- **Statistical Data Entry Assistant** Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA.
- **Nutrition Line Specialist** Novartis Consumer Health Inc., Near East Regional Office, Amman, Jordan.
- **Medical Representative** Jordan Drugstore Company, Amman, Jordan.

PROFESSIONAL BOARD/ RESEARCH CREDENTIALS

2015 – Present Granted "Fellow Status" by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (FAND).

2005 – 2026 Dietetic Board Registration by Commission on Dietetic Registration.

2015 – 2023 Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program) Human Research Certificate at the University of Miami through Fielding Graduate University.

2009 – 2014 Certified Nutrition Support Clinician Credential, National Board for Nutrition Support Certification.

2009 – 2013 The Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist Credential by Mayo Clinic.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

2005 – Present Government of Jordan Full Medical Nutrition Licensure of Practice.

1999 – Present Jordan Agricultural Engineers Association Certificate of Practice for Agricultural Engineers.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recipient of **21** awards and honors, **7** grants and fellowships, **8** scholarships, & **> 100** certifications.
- More than **10** publications, **20** peer-reviewed abstracts, **> 100** professional reviews, & **6** books & chapters.
- Delivered **15** visiting lectureships, and **> 150** trainings & capacity building workshops.

MEDIA & JOURNALISM

- Quoted professionally: **> 50** times on radio; **> 50** times in consumer print media.
- Expert interviews: **> 50** appearances in local & regional TV channels & International podcasts.
- Authored **> 550** articles in leading newspapers in Jordan [Al Rai, Al Ghad, and The Jordan Times].
- Authored **> 15** articles in health magazines of Jordan [JoHeart].

ACTIVITIES

Travel, Exercise, Culinary Diplomacy, Extraordinary Architecture, Reading, Writing, Environmental Conservation.