

CURRICULUM VITAE

- 1. Family Name:** **POULTON née ELCOAT**
- 2. First names:** **Michelle Jeanne**
- 3. Birth and Nationality:** **born in the Breton city of Quimper, France with a French mother and British father giving her dual nationality and a bilingual education**
- 4. Family Status:** **married with son Edward, daughter Catherine Leila, daughter-in-law Louise**
- 5: Education:**

Institution and dates	Degree or Diploma obtained
Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris 1979	Docteur en sciences sociales du développement Mention 'très bien' avec félicitations du jury
Collège Coopératif de Paris Sorbonne University 1977	DEA Diplome d'Etudes Approfondies Cooperative science and development anthropology
Oxford University, UK 1974	MA modern languages & literature
Somerville College, Oxford 1971	BA in French and German, distinction in French
University Aix-en-Provence 1968	Diploma in French Language & Civilisation

6. Language skills: competence on a scale of 1-5 (1 = excellent, 5 = basic)

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing
English & French	native	native	native
German & Persian	good	good	good
Spanish, Bambara	fair	fair	fair

7. Membership of professional bodies:

Royal Society for International Affairs (Chatham House); Royal Society of Asian Affairs, UK; NGO committee for UNICEF, New York; Commission Africaine pour la Santé et les Droits de l'Homme (CAPSDH- Conakry & Geneva); World Affairs Council, Richmond; Philanthra Open University Institute, Bamako; International Cooperative University, Paris.

8. Other skills: computer literacy, brilliant at crossword puzzles, wonderful cook and hostess

9. Present position: Vice-President for International Programs, Christian Children's Fund (CCF)

10. Years with firm: Just celebrated 10 years with CCF

11. Key qualifications and personal qualities:

- Broad international technical expertise in **child protection, community development and human rights issues**, notably the questions of children's rights, the right to health and education, and basic needs/ rights-based approaches to development.
- Extensive track record as an **international leader of civil society**: through her Presidency of the NGO Committee for UNICEF, her work in Eastern Europe building child development agencies post-Berlin Wall, and her exceptional contribution to civil society in Mali as chair of Band Aid fund committee, *groupe pivot* and elected Sec-Gen of national NGO Committee.
- Excellent geographical and cultural **knowledge of Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America**; Michelle leads Child Fund International and CCF community programs, creates excellence and supervises projects for children in 40 countries.
- Thorough practical knowledge of emergency relief operations and refugees – whether caused by natural disaster or by human nastiness. Michelle has a real **mastery of the complex interface between relief programs and sustainable development**.
- **Great personal leadership skills** through her empathy with staff and communities, her unrivalled understanding of rural development and child protection issues, and her sparkling intelligence. A great listener, everyone loves Michelle!

12. professional experience:

Date from-to	Location	Company	Position	Description of tasks and achievements
2003-2006	Richmond Virginia US	CCF & CFI Child Fund	Vice-President for International	Leads CCF community programs worldwide, creates excellence and supervises projects for children in some

		International	Programs	40 countries; launches emergency relief operations in response to refugee crises whether caused by natural disaster or by human incompetence; liaises with Child Fund International members on five continents, with UNICEF, UN and with all donors and international agencies.
2000-2003	Richmond Virginia US	CCF	Director of Programs	Provided and created in-house technical expertise in child protection, community development and human rights issues, notably regarding questions of children's rights, the right to health and education, and basic needs/ rights-based approaches to development. Developed new funding sources for CCF programs through grant-raising.
1995-2000	Geneva Switzerland	CCF Christian Children's Fund	Director of CCF European Office	Worked to make CCF an international leader of civil society through her Presidency of the NGO Committee for UNICEF, her work building child development agencies in Eastern Europe after the fall of the Berlin Wall, and led pioneering CCF contributions for rescuing victims of the Chernobyl nuclear accident and children who are victims of sex tourism and exploitation.
1990-1994	Bamako Mali	Save the Children	Director for West Africa, SCF Based in Bamako	African urban and rural development, decentralized democracy, civil society - creating the concept of community schools using the children's native language as an educational tool, and health work with action-research data collected by village women's committees.
1987-1994	Bamako Mali	Save the Children	Director, SCF Mali Kolondieba Sikasso Region	Created and managed Mali's most famous development program on the frontier with Ivory Coast and the NGO specialised sectoral <i>Groupe Pivot</i> for health. This turned civil society into the natural partner for health, education and women's development in Mali, ensuring growing political influence in national policy making. Community schools, community immunisation and village health data collection became African models.
1987-1994	Bamako	CCA-ONG	Elected Secretary-	Leading Mali into the field of civil society and

	Mali	Comité de Coordination des Actions des Organisations non-gouvernementales	general for 4 years and Funding Committee Chairman 5 years	democratic governance during the popular revolution that overthrew a military dictatorship, and at the time of the Band-Aid & Live-Aid phenomenon: Michelle was elected Chair of the local committee allocating money from Band Aid, Trocaire, Comic Relief and other agencies for local projects. She injected rigor and transparency and was re-elected Secretary-General of CCA-ONG for five years when this was the best known and most respected NGO coordinating group in Africa.
1983-1987	Banjul The Gambia	Save the Children Federation USA	Program manager	Working with ‘African farmers and their husbands’ on the North Bank, expanding women’s role in economics and decision making and improving lives through community-based rural development (C-BIRD approach) focused strongly on mothers and children, community associations, savings and loans, and girls’ education.
1981-1983	Bamako Mali	International Cooperative Alliance	Trainer	Training and participative evaluation for women’s cooperatives in Mali, Senegal, Togo and Benin, Ghana including project writing and evaluation, accounting and democratic governance, transparency and advocacy using participatory action-research methods.
1978-1980	Rennes France	University of Rennes	Assistant Professor of English	Teaching Business English to students in the faculties of politics, economics, and business and training business leaders by creating specialized language courses for management of individual French companies.
1975-1979	Rennes France	Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales	Doctoral student	At the same time as she was teaching and having a family, Michelle prepared her DEA, attending classes in Paris and Rennes and wrote her PhD thesis on rural development anthropology in northern Afghanistan.
1973-1975	London, UK	Chatham House	Researcher	Researcher on international affairs in Europe’s most prestigious ‘think tank’ - specializing on Central Asia, Central Europe, United Nations, international development and international organizations.
1971-73	Kabul &	UNICEF	Action-Research	Learned how rural development is perceived by women

	Mazar, Balkh Province Afghanistan	Experimental action-research outreach programme for women and children in remote rural areas of northern Afghanistan	Assistant in the UNICEF project	and their husbands in a conservative Islamic society high in remote mountain areas of the Hindu Kush, while discovering how the international organizations work, how village life is managed and how participation works. Michelle made the choice to commit herself to promoting micro-development at the village level as a poverty-alleviation strategy that she has never abandoned. 30 years later, the pioneering work of her PhD and the UNICEF strategy report that she wrote with Tonia Amat have become the best strategy documents for rebuilding and developing a peaceful Afghanistan. The UNICEF work formed the basis for Michelle's doctoral dissertation and then for a successful book on Afghanistan, published in France.
1968-71	Oxford UK	Somerville College	undergraduate	Studies in French and German language and literature, and an active student life in international politics, anti-apartheid campaign and leadership of the United Nations Student Association of the UK (UNSA).

13. Personal Distinctions:

- 1999 **Gold Medal – together with CCF and Belorussian Children's Fund – awarded in Moscow**
- 1989 **Secretary General of CCA-ONG the civil society coordinating committee in Mali**
- 1979 **Docteur de l'Université de Paris -**
- 1976 **Winner of a French government scholarship for postgraduate research**
- 1970 **Member of the National Committee of the United Nations Student Association of the UK**
- 1969 **President, Oxford University branch of the UN Student Association (UNSA)**

14. Publications

- 1980 **Afghanistan Que sais-je ?** co-authored with Robin Poulton
Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 128p

1979 **Village afghan dans le Hindou Kush: traditions sociales et économiques face au développement** Michelle Elcoat
Poulton and Robin Edward Poulton, thèses de Doctorat, 3 tomes, EHESS et UCI, Paris, 1378p