

Finding Aid to the John Pielemeier papers, 1973-2015

Collection Overview

Creator: Pielemeier, John, 1944-

Dates: 1973-2015

Extent: 1.25 linear feet (1 box)

Language: English

Abstract:

John Pielemeier served in multiple positions with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) between 1970 and 1994. After he retired from USAID, Pielemeier became an independent consultant. This collection documents Pielemeier's work in international development with the USAID in Latin America, Africa, and Asia between 1973 and 1994 and his work in various projects and roles as an independent consultant between 1994 and 2015.

Preferred Citation: [item], John Pielemeier papers, American University Archives & Special Collections, Washington, D.C.

Custodial History

This collection was donated to the AU Archives & Special Collections on October 8, 2020 by John Pielemeier as part of the USAID Alumni Association (UAA) collections.

Processing Information

Collection was processed by Isabella Panteledes, Archives Student Assistant. Completed in September 2024. During processing the original order was maintained as much as possible using donor provided documentation.

Related Materials

Related materials at AU Archives & Special Collections include other collections donated by members of the USAID Alumni Association (UAA).

Additionally, the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training provides access to their Oral History Collection with UAA members. [<https://adst.org/oralhistory/>]

Collection Access & Use Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

To the extent that they own copyright, the donor has assigned the copyright of this collection to American University. Contact AU Archives & Special Collections and Archives for more information.

Administrative Information

Finding Aid Date: 2024-09

Finding Aid Author: Finding aid created by Isabella Panteledes, September 2024.

Description Rules: Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Language of Description: English

Collection Description

Biographical Note

John Pielemeier (b. 1944–) served in the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) from 1970 to 1994. After completing a degree in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and graduating with his master's from the University of Chicago, Pielemeier volunteered with the Peace Corps in Cote d'Ivoire. He began working with USAID in the International Development Intern program in 1971 in Brazil. While there, he participated in designing a loan for a health organization in northern Brazil and working on the "Food for Peace" program. Pielemeier then joined the USAID Africa Bureau in 1974 where he worked on project development and aid in drought recovery/prevention through improved irrigation systems and agricultural practices. In 1977 he joined the Office of Southern Africa Regional Coordinator (OSARC) where he worked on building infrastructure and agricultural projects. Pielemeier left OSARC in 1982 and returned to the U.S. to work in the USAID Washington Office of the Administrator, where he worked as the Special Assistant to Counselor Buster Brown and handled policy issues, rebudgeting projects, and evaluations of project proposals. Pielemeier then served as the Director of the Office of South Asia between 1986 and 1989. As Director, Pielemeier focused on flood management and responses to natural disasters. In 1989, Pielemeier left USAID to attend the Industrial College of Armed Forces. Pielemeier returned to USAID in 1991 and served as a Senior Foreign Service Officer in Brazil and worked on family planning, climate change, and HIV/AIDS until his retirement 1994.

After his retirement, Pielemeier worked as an independent consultant in various roles until 2018. As a consultant, he led teams designing and evaluating international development projects for organizations including USAID, Global Environment Fund (GEF), the United Nations (UN), the Packard Foundation, and a variety of other organizations and consulting firms. Pielemeier held roles as a team leader managing large scale projects for numerous organizations and purposes, adapting to what each mission called for. In roles where he was an evaluator, Pielemeier reviewed USAID projects that could be improved and assessed for necessary changes. As a consultant, Pielemeier designed and created new loans and grant proposals for multiple governments throughout Latin America and Africa. As a conservationist with the United Nations in 1998, Pielemeier evaluated the impact of development projects on the environment. Working as a Design Strategist, Pielemeier was able to create his own plans for progress and international development for different clients and governments. Pielemeier's work as a Senior Fellow

(1995-1996) with the World Wildlife Fund aided in key findings to better promote conservation efforts in Latin America.

Timeline of John Pielemeier's USAID Career

1973 - International Development Intern Program, Brazil
1974-1976 - Africa Office of Development Resources, Project Design Officer
1977-1982 - Office of Southern Africa Regional Coordinator and USAID/Botswana, Project Design Officer
1983-1985 - Washington Office of the Administrator, Special Assistant to the Counselor
1986-1989 - Office of South Asia, Director
1990-1991 - Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Researcher/Student
1992-1994 - Office of Brazil, Mission Director

Timeline of Pielemeier's Independent Consultant Work

1995 - Eritrea, USAID, Team Leader	2004 - USAID and Global Health, Team Leader
1995 - Brazil, SOS-Villages, Consultant	2005 - Packard Foundation, Team Leader
1995-1996 - World Wildlife Fund, Senior Fellow	2006 - Central Africa, Weidemann Consortium and USAID Consultant, Team Leader
1996 - USAID and Health Technical Services Project, Team Leader	2006 - Senegal, Weidemann Association and USAID, Team Leader
1997 - Madagascar, USAID Consultant and Design Strategist	2006 - Mozambique, USAID and Africare, Team Leader
1997 - Rwanda, USAID, Team Leader	2007-2008 - USAID and Global Health, Team Leader
1998 - Brazil, United Nations, Conservation Worker	2007 - Packard Foundation and USAID, Team Leader
1998 - Global Environment Fund, Team Leader	2008 - Philippines, Tropical Forest Conservation Act, Evaluator
1998 - Brazilian Biodiversity Fund, Team Leader	2008 - USAID and Global Health, Evaluator
2000 - Indonesia, USAID and Chemonics, Team Leader	2010 - USAID Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, Consultant
2000 - Brazil, USAID, Consultant	2015 - USAID and E3 Office of Forest and Biodiversity, Team Leader
2000-2001 - Madagascar, USAID and IRG/PAGE, Consultant	
2001 - Jamaica, The Nature Conservancy, Evaluator	
2002 - Indonesia, USAID, Team Leader	
2002 - USAID and Global Health Council, Evaluator	
2003 - USAID and TvT Associates, Team Leader	

Collection Scope and Content Note

This collection documents John Pielemeier's career as a USAID employee between 1970 and 1994 and his career as an independent consultant between 1994 and 2018. This collection includes reports, publications, and papers written and collected by Pielemeier.

The bulk of this collection contains materials related to Pielemeier's work as an independent consultant and his commitment to working with environmental conservation. Pielemeier assessed the success and failures of different sustainability programs and project plans in order to create a response for how these missteps could be remedied. Additionally, the majority of the documents produced during his USAID

tenure come from his position as the Special Assistant to the Counselor at the Washington Office of the USAID Administrator. Pielemeier’s work was policy oriented during this period, as the documents all pertained to USAID's positions on different forms of economic assistance. Significant topics appearing in this collection include various global health and development projects and assessments, government aid to foreign nations, and global conservation efforts. The materials in this collection are textual and include mission updates, evaluations, aid and project plans, grant proposals, assessments, evaluations, reviews, response strategies on international development and conservation efforts, and final reports.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into two series according to Pielemeier’s career and employment. Series one is arranged into 6 subseries organized chronologically by Pielemeier’s USAID positions. Series two is arranged into 6 subseries organized according to the type of consulting work projects.

Series 1: USAID Employment, 1973-1994

Subseries 1.1: Brazil, 1973, 1992-1994

Subseries 1.2: Africa Office of Development Resources (AFR/DR), 1974-1976

Subseries 1.3: Office of Southern Africa Regional Coordinator And USAID/Botswana, 1977-1982

Subseries 1.4: USAID/Washington Office of the Administrator, Special Assistant to the Counselor (C/AID), 1983-1985

Subseries 1.5: Office of South Asia – Director, 1986-1989

Subseries 1.6: Industrial College of the Armed Forces, 1990

Series 2: Independent Consultant Work, 1995-2015

Subseries 2.1: Mission Strategy Documents, 1995-1997

Subseries 2.2: Agriculture, 1995-2006

Subseries 2.3: Environment/Forestry, 1996-2015

Subseries 2.4: Health, 1996-2004

Subseries 2.5: Conservation Trust Fund, 1998-2008

Subseries 2.6: Population-Health-Environment Programs, 2005-2008

Series Descriptions and Collection Contents

Series 1: USAID Employment, 1973-1994

The USAID Employee series (1973-1994) contains loans and grant proposals drafted by Pielemeier in various roles within USAID. The series documents Pielemeier’s work as a project designer, and how Pielemeier addressed and worked on agency policy. The bulk of this series documents Pielemeier’s work with Latin America and Africa. This series primarily includes mission updates, project evaluations, aid plans, and grant proposals from Pielemeier’s business with Latin America and Africa. The series is arranged in 6 subseries organized by Pielemeier’s USAID position.

Subseries 1.1: Brazil, 1973, 1992-1994

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date	Folder Description
1	1	"Integrated Health Delivery System - Brazil Loan."	1973	Written by Pielemeier during is USAID position located in Brazil between 1971-1973.

1	2	"Strategy for USAID Assistance in Family Planning to Brazil"	June 1992	Written by Pielemeier during his USAID position as Mission Director located in Brazil between 1991-1994
1	3	"Mid-term Cooperative Evaluation"	March 1994	Written by Pielemeier during his USAID position as Mission Director located in Brazil between 1991-1994

Subseries 1.2: Africa Office of Development Resource (AFR/DR). 1974-1976

Scope and Content Note: Materials in this subseries were written by Pielemeier during his USAID position as Project Design Officer located in the Africa Office of Development Resources between 1974-1977.

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date
1	4	"Strengthening of Health Delivery Systems in Central and West Africa"	March 22, 1974
1	5	"Onchocerciasis Control in the Volta River Basin"	January 10, 1975
1	6	"Chad Range and Livestock Herder Training"	April 1976
1	7	"Regional Onchocerciasis - Free Area Planting"	June 1976

Subseries 1.3: Office of Southern Africa Regional Coordinator and USAID/Botswana, 1978-1980

Scope and Content Note: Materials in this subseries were written by Pielemeier during his USAID position as a Project Design Officer located in Southern Africa between 1977-1982.

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date
1	8	"Lesotho- Southern Perimeter Road"	June 28, 1978
1	9	"Botswana Rural Sector Grant Project Paper"	June 1980

Subseries 1.4: USAID Washington Office of the Administrator, Special Assistant to the Counselor (C/AID), 1981-1987.

Scope and Content Note: Materials in this subseries were by Pielemeier during his USAID position as Special Assistant to the Counselor located in the USAID Washington Office between 1981-1987.

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date
1	10	"Economic Assistance and Progress in Developing Countries- Contributions of the USAID"	1981-1985
1	11	"AID Position on Cash Transfers"	1986
1	12	"Examples of Successful AID Projects and Programs"	1986
1	13	"Apportionment of Economic Support Funds"	April 2, 1986
1	14	"Using Quantitative Targets for Internal AID Management Purposes"	July 9, 1986
1	15	"Excess Forward Funding: S&T Bureau Annual Budget Review"	July 29, 1986
1	16	"The Impact of AID on American Agriculture"	September 25, 1986
1	17	"Strengths and Weaknesses of the Title XII Program: Performance has not Matches Potential"	October 10, 1986
1	18	"AID Senior Management Course: Management Functions Inventory"	December 16, 1986

1	19	"Improving Title XII Performance: Action Steps"	January 30, 1987
1	20	"Expanding Freedom's Frontier: Foreign Aid in the 1980s"	February 1987
1	21	"(Draft) Administrator's Letter to New Aid Mission Directors"	April 23, 1987

Subseries 1.5: Office of South Asia, Director, 1984

Scope and Content Note: Materials in this subseries were written by Pielemeier during his USAID position as Director located in the Office of South Asia in 1984.

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date
1	22	"Eastern Waters Study"	April 1984

Subseries 1.6: Industrial College of the Armed Forces, 1991

Scope and Content Note: Materials in this subseries were written by Pielemeier during his personal position as a Student and a Researcher located at the Industrial College of Armed Forces in 1991.

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date
1	23	"Military Expenditures and Economic Development"	1991

Series 2: Independent Consultant Work, 1995-2015

The Independent Consultant Work series (1995-2015) documents Pielemeier's work designing and evaluating development projects in consulting roles for the USAID, GEF, UN, Packard Foundation, and a variety of private voluntary organizations and consulting firms. Pielemeier's work focused on the needs of project host governments and client organizations related to water management, agriculture, health issues, and environmental issues. Pielemeier and his team presented development solutions to USAID and project host country leaders and gave plans of action to how problems could be fixed. This series mainly contains project assessments and evaluations, program reviews, final reports, project plans, and program response strategies from Pielemeier's work as an independent consultant. The series is organized into six subseries organized according to the type of consulting project and work.

Subseries 2.1: Mission Strategy Work for USAID, 1995-1997

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date	Folder Description
1	24	"Eritrea Mission Management Assessment" - Team Leader	March 20, 1995	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for Eritrea.
1	25	"Rwanda Integrated Strategic Plan" -Team Leader	March 1997	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for USAID in Rwanda.

Subseries 2.2: Agriculture, 1995-2006

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date	Folder Description
1	26	"Preparing for the World of Work a Report for SOS-Villages/Brazil" - Consultant	December 4, 1995	Written by Pielemeier during his role as a Consultant for SOS-Villages in Brazil.
1	27	"MEFSI Final Evaluation Final Report" - Team Leader	November 2006	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader with Lourdes Fidalgo

				for USAID in Mozambique and Africare.
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Subseries 2.3: Environment and Forestry, 1996-2025

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date	Folder Description
1	28	"Latin America and Caribbean Program: Key Findings of the 1995 Report" - Senior Fellow	1995	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Senior Fellow for World Wildlife Fund.
1	29	"World Wildlife Fund Latin America and Caribbean Program Assessment" - Senior Fellow	June 1996	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Senior Fellow for World Wildlife Fund.
1	30	"USAID/Madagascar Strategic Objective 3" - Consultant and Design Strategist	1997	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Consultant and Design Strategist for USAID in Madagascar.
1	31	"United Nations Capacity Building in Brazil" - Conservation Worker	February 1998	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Conservation Worker for the United Nations.
1	32	"Movement Forward on Environmental Sustainable Finance in Madagascar" - Consultant	June 21, 2000	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Consultant for USAID in Madagascar.
1	33	"Mid-term Assessment of Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment" - Team Leader	February 17, 2006	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for Weidemann Consortium and USAID.
1	34	"Evaluation of the USAID/Agriculture and Natural Resources Management Program" - Team Leader	December 2006	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for Weidemann Associates and USAID in Senegal.
1	35	"Latin American and Caribbean Environment Activity Approval for Conservation in the Andean Amazon" - Consultant	March 18, 2010	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Consultant for LAC/RSD/Environment.
1	36	"Final Evaluation of the Sustainable Conservation Approaches in Priority Ecosystems Program (Summary)" - Team Leader	February 2015	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for USAID/E3/FAB.
1	37	"Final Evaluation of the Sustainable Conservation Approaches in Priority Ecosystems Program (Final Report)" - Team Leader	April 2015	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for USAID/E3/FAB.

Subseries 2.4: Health

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date	Folder Description
1	38	"Process Evaluation of the AIDS Technical Support Project (ATSP)" - Team Leader	June 1996	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for Health Technical Services Project and USAID.
1	39	"(Summary Report): USAID Support for Family Planning/Reproductive Health in Brazil" - Consultant	June 2000	Written by Pielemeier with Tom Merrick and Jerker Liljestrand during his role as Consultant for USAID.

1	40	"USAID Support for Family Planning/Reproductive Health Programs in Brazil (Technical Assistance Report)" - Consultant	November 2000	Written by Pielemeier with Tom Merrick and Jerker Liljestrand during his role as Consultant for USAID.
1	41	"USAID/Indonesia HIV/AIDS Expanded Response Strategy 2002-2007" - Team Leader	March 28, 2002	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for USAID in Indonesia.
1	42	"Evaluation of the Global Health Council" - Evaluator	November 2002	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Evaluator for USAID and Global Health Council.
1	43	"Assessment of the Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival Project" - Team Leader	April 2003	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for TvT and USAID.
1	44	"Tuberculosis Coalition for Technical Assistance" - Team Leader	April 2004	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader with Einar Heidel and Ronald Wilson for USAID and Global Health.

Subseries 2.5: Conservation Trust Fund, 1998-2008

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date	Folder Description
1	45	"Assessment of Jamaican National Parks Trust Fund" - Team Leader	July 18, 1998	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for Global Environment Fund.
1	46	"GEF Evaluation of Experience with Trust Funds" - Team Leader	September 10, 1998	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for Global Environment Fund.
1	47	"Assessment of Brazil Trust Fund" - Team Leader	September 15, 1998	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for Brazilian Biodiversity Fund.
1	48	"External Evaluation of the Biodiversity Foundation Project" - Team Leader	January 2000	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for USAID and Chemonics.
1	49	"Establishing a National Protected Areas Trust Fund or Biodiversity Trust Fund in Madagascar" - Consultant	2001	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Consultant for IRG/PAGE and USAID in Madagascar.
1	50	"Feasibility Issues for a Biodiversity Trust Fund for Madagascar" - Consultant	March 3, 2001	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Consultant for IRG/PAGE and USAID in Madagascar.
1	51	"Evaluation of the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica" - Evaluator	December 2001	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Evaluator with Margaret Jones Williams for The Nature Conservancy.
1	52	"Philippines Tropical Forest Conservation Trust Fund" - Evaluator	August 2008	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Evaluator with Eduardo Quebblatin for Tropical Forest Conservation Act.

Subseries 2.6: Population-Health-Environment Programs, 2005-2008

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date	Folder Description
1	53	"Review of Programs Supported by the Packard Foundation and the USAID" - Team Leader	August 2005	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader with Cynthia Greene at the Packard Foundation.
1	54	"Review of the Packard Foundation's Population Environment Initiative" - Team Leader	August 5, 2005	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader for the Packard Foundation and USAID.
1	55	"Assessment of USAID's Population and Environment Projects and Programming Options" - Team Leader	December 2007	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Team Leader with Lori Hunter and Robert Kaying for USAID and Global Health.
1	56	"Key Conclusions from Evaluations of Community-Based Projects" - Evaluator	September 22, 2008	Written by Pielemeier during his role as Evaluator for USAID and Global Health.