

Dr. Podems is a South African resident for nearly 20 years, who brings strong contextual knowledge with regards to the professionalisation of evaluation globally and the sensitivities within South Africa. She focused on evaluator competencies and capacity development as part of her doctoral studies in 2001. Since then she has published papers and conducted research on global perspectives in evaluator competencies that culminated in an international peer review journal in 2014. As a SAMEA board member, she wrote successful proposals and raised funds that culminated in a forum in 2010 on Evaluator Competencies in South Africa, which had over 150 attendees. Since then she has given multiple international presentations on evaluator competencies and as a current international representative on the American Evaluation Association (AEA) Board, leads the effort with Jean King to encourage the process of evaluator professionalisation in the USA.

In addition to her relevant background, Dr. Podems brings strong capacity building knowledge through her work as a curriculum developer for government M&E training programmes, civil society and donor M&E training design and implementation, and her work with CLEAR-AA. She is currently a Research Fellow at Stellenbosch University.

Dr. Podems has over 20 years of evaluation experience in Africa and Asia designing, implementing and leading process, outcome and impact evaluations.