



## MEREDITH KOZAK

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**Policy stream:** MPA Public and Social Policy

**Nationality:** American

**Contact:** mlkozak1015@gmail.com

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### Education:

**9/2008 – 5/2012**

**The Ohio State University**

BA International Development Studies  
and French

### Languages:

**English** – Native speaker

**French** – Advanced

**Pulaar** – Intermediate

### IT Skills:

**Microsoft Office (Excel, Powerpoint, Word  
etc.)** – Advanced

**Stata** – Intermediate

**Content Strategy & Management** –  
Advanced

### Academic interests:

International development

Public health

Behavioral economics

Project design & implementation

Social justice

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### Key extra-curricular interests:

Working out (weightlifting & running)

Travelling

Yoga

Drawing

Ben & Jerry's Connoisseur

### Work experience:

**3/2013 – 5/2015**

**United States Peace Corps**

**Preventative Health Educator**

**Ndiawene Peuhl, Tambacounda, Senegal**

- Directed and organized 2 four day leadership development seminars for 48 Senegalese girls and their fathers (total) to promote gender equality, open communication within families, and advocacy for greater female participation in public and professional spheres.
- I extended a USAID/PEPAM latrine construction project to 2 local villages and organized managerial teams to oversee construction. During this extension, I managed the construction of 8 pit latrines and instructed households on proper latrine care and the danger of diarrheal diseases from lack of latrine use.
- I have learned how to facilitate constructive dialogue on sensitive subjects (such as reproductive health, HIV, FGM, early marriage, etc.) whilst manoeuvring through societal, cultural, and linguistic challenges. This is only achieved by gaining the trust and respect of those I worked with and served, while also self-reflecting and self-assessing my role and limitations.

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**6/2015 – 7/2015**

**Meridian Bioscience, Inc.**

**Cultural & Linguistic Consultant**

**Cincinnati, Ohio, USA & Dakar, Senegal**

- Trained 13 lab technicians on how to conduct two malaria DNA amplification assays at the Department of Parasitology-Mycology at Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar and Thies. Training was conducted in French and Pulaar for the initial Illumigene and Illumipro Malaria beta studies.
- Translated Illumigene Malaria DNA amplification assay protocols from French to English.
- Gained further insight into public health structures in Senegal (at national level and laboratories). Also gained technical lab skills and further knowledge of malaria species, modes of transmission, symptoms of infection, and modes of detection.