

Endri Raço PhD

Statistical Analyst & Data Science Specialist

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Highly motivated, commercially astute Statistical Analyst and Data Management expert, qualified with a PhD in statistics and highly experienced in delivering consultative project management for government and not for profit bodies. A critical thinker, pioneering data management techniques to deliver insightful end-to-end data mining to drive strategy development and interpreting data-orientated trends to support national initiatives and social programmes. With a highly technical, progressive mindset, proactively leading complex numeric based problem solving, interpreting intricate factual evidence to deliver insightful conclusions to progress decision-making.

Data Management Expertise

Statistical Software:

Application of R statistical software: data analysis, data wrangling, visualisation, reporting, data.table, tidyverse, caret, e1071, xgboost, randomForest.

Python: Data analysis / wrangling, visualisation, reporting, NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, Flask
SPSS, Excel

Dashboards: Creation of dashboards i.e. indicators and statistics using Shiny R and PowerBI

Databases: SQL, MySQL, Access

Additional knowledge: ElasticSearch, Recommendation Engines, Customer Segmentation & Retention Models, Price Optimization, Productionizing Models, Git, LATEX, Markdown

Memberships: Albanian Mathematical Association

Qualifications

PhD, Statistics, Polytechnic University of Tirane, Albania

MSc System Analysis and Control,

MSc Informatics and Computing Engineering

BSc System Analysis and Control

St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University (SPbGPU), Russia

Professional Experience: (Tirana, Albania)

Lecturer: Statistical Analysis & Data Science

January 2011 – Present

Polytechnic University of Tirane

- **Subject matter expert:** Delivering comprehensive, engaging undergraduate/graduate level teaching in the following disciplines: Data Science & Machine Learning; Statistical Programming in R, Python; Probability and Statistics
- **Teaching programmes:** Project managing the design, content research and delivery of Data Science teaching courses, integrating core data science fundamentals and expanding course content to support related data science disciplines.

Project Management Consultancy

Consultancy Projects

2011 - Present

- **Data management:** Driving complex statistical analysis through end-to-end data management i.e. sourcing, gathering, arranging, processing, modelling and reporting.
- **Project leadership:** Having established a diverse portfolio of long-term and short term project work, led projects from concept to completion, leading strong client relations across multiple sectors and within multi-disciplinary projects including:

ICT Specialist/Key Expert

June 2022 – Present

FCG Swedish Development AB (Pristina, Kosovo)

- **IT project management:** As the project's IT focal point for the Programme Implementation Unit, masterminding project deliverables for the Project IT Component; coordinating resources, team engagement and translating each element into core tasks i.e drafting ToR and identifying profiles of short-term experts in Component 3 to execute assignments.

Project Management Consultancy continued

**Consultant & Statistician
UNICEF (Tirana, Albania)**

March 2020 – June 2022

- **Data and Statistics on the Rights and Protection of Children project:** Collating, validating, and analysing data acquired from a wide range of resources, translating key insights into tangible information for publication into reports and presentations.
- **Covid19 Emergency Working Group Shiny Dashboard:** Establishing a data-driven dashboard through comprehensive data management to deliver a programme strategy in response to the global pandemic.
- **One Click Away Shiny Dashboard:** Launched a data-driven thought dashboard to support a programme strategy to identify problems associated with children's use of the internet; managed the end-to-end project from data research, collation, processing and interpretation.

Statistician & R Expert

November 2021 – December 2021

Sweden's Government Agency for Development Cooperation (Tirana, Albania)

- **R training:** Trained employees from the Albanian Institute of Statistics to manage data editing and data tabulation using R language across a range of tasks, including sampling part of business confidence, Balance Sheet, Vital Statistics, System of Agricultural Prices Survey.

Consultant & Statistician (Tirana, Albania)

2011 - 2020

- **Multi sector experience:** Delivered complex statistical reporting to drive strategy development and long-term performance planning for high-profile clients. i.e. UNDP, Sweden Embassy, Sweden's Government Agency: Development Corporation, UN Women, UNFPA and World Vision. Examples of key projects include:
 - **STAR2 project (UNDP, 2018-2019):** Created ToRs and led data science tasks/data extraction to build a national dashboard for municipalities to interact with the public and drive decision-making.
 - **Leave No One Behind (UNDP – UNSSIA, 2015-2017):** Designed/developed Shiny dashboard, collecting and reporting from 61 municipalities with more than 150.000 observations in real-time data. Performed statistical research and translated findings into official reports to identify the true picture of municipalities' housing needs.
 - **Justice Without Delays Project (OSCE Presence in Albania, 2019 – 2020):** Crafted the nation-wide courts statistical report to analyse delay factors which impact court proceedings; performed statistical analysis in R and established a standardized data management and verification protocol.

Early Career

Head of IT Directorate, Ministry of Interior

March 2008 – December 2010

- **Project management:** As a core member of major government IT project initiatives, directed projects from concept to completion, initiating plans and coordinating with stakeholders to integrate key findings into product development road-maps.

Certified SUN System Engineer, Horizon sh.p.k September 2006 – February 2008

- **Systems:** Supervised the deployment/effective performance of Solaris based systems within global telecommunications corporations, facilitating migration and troubleshooting whilst delivering streamlined solutions and user testing to ensure a smooth roll out of Solaris operating system upgrades and updates.

**Certifications
(2007 – 2020)**

Professional Certificate:
Data Science
Data Science and Machine Learning
Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)
CITRIX Certified Administrator (CCA) for Citrix
Presentation Server 4.5

SUN Field Engineer (TDC-010)
SUN Certified for Solaris 10 OS
Security Administrator
Network Administrator
System Administrator

**Publications
(2014 – Present)**

An established author within mathematical statistics and data science, I have published a portfolio of books/papers and have presented at global conferences during my career.