

Andrea Casanova

Swiss Citizen

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My Profile

A young and resilient leader with more than 15 years of experience in financial and investment management at the international level. Specialized in making changes happen, optimizing financial resources, managing projects at the highest level and negotiating win-win deals. Experienced in interacting and communicating with stakeholders at any level. Passionate about technology, solving complex challenges through innovative approaches, building resilient cross-cultural teams and supporting people in their professional growth.

Areas of Expertise

- Project Management;
- Strategic Business Planning;
- International Business development;
- Investment Valuation;
- Financial Management and Controlling;
- Cross-cultural team leadership;
- Change Management;
- Negotiations;
- Compliance and Fraud management;
- Corporate Governance;
- Excel Modeling;
- Customer Relationship;
- HR Management;
- Digital Transformation;
- Trust building;
- ERP systems;

Languages: Fluent in English, French and Italian. Intermediate in Spanish and German.

Work Experience

Finance and Administration Manager (Regional) / Deputy Finance and Administration Coordinator

Sep 2017 – June 2022

International Committee of the Red Cross - East and Central Africa, Southeast Asia

360° degree supervision of financial and administrative matters in the Region of assignment, including people management, coaching of teams and interactions with external stakeholders (authorities, NGOs, national societies, and financial institutions). Management of Ad-Hoc projects for the Regions and HQ.

- Successfully led the Relocation project to the new Campus in Nairobi (>300 FTE, 25M CHF project, planning of resources, procurement and tender, communication with stakeholders).
- Increased accountability of Donor resources with the creation of the Internal Control System to monitor the financial relationship with the National Societies and mitigate the risks linked to local funding.
- Improved the quality, efficiency and customer service of the finance and administration teams through a long-term onboarding roadmap for the newly hired F&A Managers in East Africa and Southeast Asia.
- Optimized the regional financial resources (>80M CHF) by efficiently supervising the budgetary and forecasting activities in Kenya, Tanzania, Djibouti, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka.
- Enhanced the Nairobi Logistic Centre (184 FTE – 30M CHF supply Chain) efficiency through budgetary optimization, revenue stream design, structural investment supervision and reorganization of the finance department.
- Organized workshops for non-financial managers to disseminate best practices, compliance, ethical principles and values.

CFO and Investment Manager

May 2015 - Aug 2017

Colombo & Partners SA, Lugano, Zurich, Geneva

General management of the Family office activities and support to the investments of the Group

- Valorized the investment of the Family Office by supervising the development of innovative start-ups active in Software, E-commerce, and Pharma Industries (>10M CHF value each);
- Optimized the fiscal charges for more than 100 Family office clients by leading the financial analysis of the investment portfolios concerning the Italian Voluntary Disclosure procedure;
- Represented the interest of the Family Office as a board member for several private and public companies;

Career Break*July 2014 – April 2015*

After a few months of sickness, I decided to put on hold my professional life. During this break period, I had the chance to try something completely new by helping a friend with his activities in the hospitality industry in Spain and travelling to discover new places.

Finance Manager / Branch Manager*July 2013 - Jun 2014*

Aviation finance and leasing Sarl, Zurich, Dublin

Overall management of the activities executed by the Swiss branch of the Group Ryanair

- Created the Swiss branch of the Group in six months and prepared the ground to handle the 737-8NG Aircraft Purchase Agreement between Boeing and Ryanair HQ, for a total commitment of > 1 billion USD.
- Contributed to the implementation of the Group Strategy by structuring the Swiss and Lux branches with investment models, ISDA contracts, loan agreements and adequate accounting standards (SWISS GAAP, LUX GAAP, IFRS)
- Supported the HQ with the monthly consolidated closure, the verification of the southern Europe airport charges and the optimization of the Italian branch structure;

Head of Subsidiary accounts and Financial analyst*July 2006 - July 2013*

Azienda Elettrica Ticinese, Bellinzona

- Overall supervision of the subsidiaries of the Group and creation of investment models for renewable energy projects in Europe.
- Optimized the valorization of the subsidiaries of the Company by developing the Consolidated accounting structure for group companies operating in Switzerland, Germany, Greece and Italy;
- Defended the Company interests as a member of the Board for the Subsidiaries;
- Supported the energy supplying for southern Switzerland by acting as managing director for a Cogenerative Power plant (25 GWh) in Northern Italy;
- Provided the instruments to better analyze Renewable Energy Investments through an Investment Model Framework;

Education

Executive Master in International Business (EMIB)*January 2021 – Current*

ESCP Business School Madrid/Paris

All 14 modules completed: International HR Management, Financial Statements, Digital Marketing, Negotiation, Organizational Behavior, Project Management, Strategy, Cross-Cultural effectiveness, International Business Development, Marketing, Big data, Leadership and emotional intelligence, Digital Transformation, and Operations Management. Master Thesis to be delivered Q1-23.

Chartered Specialist in accounting and financial management - Federal Diploma of higher education*2006 - 2010*

Verein für die höheren Prüfungen in Rechnungswesen und Controlling, Zurich

Diploma focused on Finance and Accounting Management, Payroll, Law, Taxation and ICT

High school diploma*2001 - 2005*

Scuola Cantonale di Commercio, Bellinzona

Diploma focused on Economy and Foreign languages

Additional Information

Former Member of the Board of Directors at TXT-E-Solutions SpA (Aerospace), Avanthera SA (Pharma), DOS Group SA and DOS Europe Sro (Software and mobile app solutions), Keros Digital SA (E-Commerce) and AET CoGen Srl (Energy)

Passions and hobbies

I am passionate about aviation, cooking and discovering new countries and cultures. In addition, I like to play tennis and build Lego.