



Nicholas Parkhill <> PDIA Community of Practice Alumni

From rural Northern Ireland, but somehow find myself now working in Pakistan.

WORK TITLE AND EXPERTISE:

Head of Sustainable Impact at public sector consultancy Adam Smith International. I recently took on the role of **Deputy Team Leader** of a 6 year DFID programme working with government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa aimed at the all-encompassing topic of improving economic planning. We started at the beginning of March, so are at the very outset, and right now are adapting to support government on the economic response to COVID-19. It's incredible tough times, but exciting to

potentially be able to help like this. Expertise - **Turning complexity into structure and action.**

THE FIRST CONTACT WITH PDIA ONLINE CLASS

PDIA in practice, 2016, in the role of **supporting the government of the Nigeria** through medium term sector planning, and subsequent prioritisation of the capital budget in 2016.

WHAT HAS PDIA CHANGED IN MY APPROACH TO WORK/LIFE AND COMPLEX PROBLEMS?

Start with the problem! I'm sure people have become sick of me asking the question... 'what problem are we addressing here?', but it's so fundamental. Let's solve problems that people want solved.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST OBSTACLES I FACE IN IMPLEMENTING PDIA?

Many of the structures, client requirements and colleague/counterparts expected ways of working do not make taking a PDIA approach that simple.

HOW DO I OVERCOME THEM?

I've not always able to follow the guidance end-to-end, but I've **brought elements into my work where possible**, and trying to make others think that it's their idea to do it that way. That helps... 😊

WHAT KEEPS ME INSPIRED?

I really believe in the objective of building state capability. And of creating a culture that works towards this, and the cumulative effect of little positive steps over time.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO FELLOW PDIA-ERS THROUGHOUT THE GLOBAL COP?

Connect! This can be a great network of encouragement, ideas, and resources.

CONTACT:

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(p.s. own photo choice would have been this one, did not pass the Newsletter team)