

Curriculum Vitae

Adam Teixeira Leite

Environmental Scientist & Biodiversity Expert

MSc (Master of Science) in Environmental Science

BSc (Honours) in Environmental & Earth Sciences (Geology)



Adam is a highly experienced international Biodiversity Expert and environmental consultant/scientist based in Essen, Germany, working as a Freelance Environmental Consultant and small business owner of TL Communications.

He has extensive experience undertaking Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental and Social Due Diligence (ESDD) for lenders, environmental licensing & permitting, specialist biodiversity assessments for terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, ecological monitoring, auditing, Critical Habitat assessment and developing biodiversity action plans, management plans and biodiversity offset plans.

He also has many years of experience in working aligning projects with the performance requirements/standards of International Finance Institutions including European Banks, such as include the IFC, EBRD, EIB, ADB, etc.

Location

Essen, Germany

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Website

<https://www.tl-comm.com>

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/adam-teixeira-leite>

Experience

- >18 years' environmental consulting experience
- Working on major capital projects, internationally
- Working with International Finance Institutions
- Experience across multiple sectors and activities
- Project management and leading small expert teams
- Team coordination, training, mentorship, technical reviews
- Extensive field experience

Core Professional Competencies

- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA & EIA)
- Environmental & Social Due Diligence (ESDD) and gap analysis according to international lender's standards (IFC, EBRD, EIB, etc.)
- Environmental and Social Management Systems (ESMS)
- Developing Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) for Projects (new/construction and existing operations)
- Critical Habitat Assessment in accordance with lender's standards
- Compiling Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs)
- Preparing Biodiversity Management Plans (BMPs)
- Conservation plans, habitat restoration and rehabilitation plans
- Biodiversity Offset strategies and plans
- Invasive Alien Species assessments and management plans
- Ecosystems services assessment
- Collision Risk Modelling (CRM) for birds (wind farms)
- Terrestrial biodiversity surveys, sampling and assessment
- Wetland and river ecology assessment and management
- Compliance monitoring & auditing
- Water resource management and stewardship
- Mapping and analysis using Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- Nature Positive / Net Gain (TNFD, international lender's requirements)

Key Industry Sectors

- Roads, rail and bridges infrastructure
- Oil and gas
- Mining: coal, minerals, sand, aggregate/quarrying
- Renewable energy: on/offshore wind, solar, hydropower, geothermal
- Agriculture and forestry
- Residential and commercial developments
- Industrial activities
- Water supply (dams and pipelines) & bulk sanitation infrastructure
- Waste management and disposal

Personal Details

Name	Adam Teixeira Leite
Age	41
Place of birth	Durban, South Africa
Nationality	Dual citizenship: Portuguese & South African
Residence	Germany (Essen)
Languages	English (fluent, native speaker), German (intermediate, level B1), Afrikaans (B2)
Driver's License	Code B (passenger vehicle), German (European) license

Education / Qualifications

Master of Science (MSc): Environmental Science [dissertation focused on ecological monitoring and ecosystem rehabilitation]	University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), Durban, South Africa
Bachelor of Science Honours (BSc. Hons): Environmental Science, Earth Science [focus of honours research on wetland ecology and management, <i>Graduated Cum Laude</i>]	UKZN (above)

Employment History



TL Communications

Business owner and freelance consultant

Period: November 2025 – present day

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/tlcomms>



ERM (Environmental Resources Management) GmbH

Period: March 2022 – October 2025

Years of service: 3 years and 6 months

Frankfurt, Germany

website: <https://www.erm.com>



Verdant Environmental

Period: February 2021 – December 2021

Years of service: 11 months

Durban, South Africa

website: <https://www.verdant-env.co.za>



Eco-Pulse Environmental Consulting

Period: March 2011 – February 2021

Years of service: 10 years

Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

website: <https://www.eco-pulse.co.za>



INR: Institute of Natural Resources

Period: March 2008 – December 2010

Years of service: 2 years and 10 months

Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

website: <https://inr.org.za>



University of KwaZulu-Natal

Period: January 2011 – November 2012

Years of service: 2 years

Westville/Pinetown, Durban, South Africa

website: <https://ukzn.ac.za>

Honours and Awards

- Graduated 'Cum Laude' for BSc Honours degree in Environmental Science in 2007.
- Graduated with dean's commendation (final year mark 85%) in 2006 for the completion of Honours degree in Environmental Science.
- Scholarship based on merit obtained in 2006 towards an Honours degree in Environmental Science through the University of KwaZulu-Natal.
- Scholarship for outstanding achievement received in 2005 through the University of KwaZulu-Natal for Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science.

Affiliations and Registrations

- Member of the international Society for Ecological Restoration (SER).
- Member of IAIA (International Association for Impact Assessment).
- Accredited AWS (Alliance for Water Stewardship) Practitioner/Consultant.

Academic Publications

- Sullivan, CA, Macfarlane, D, Dickens, C, Mander, M, Bonjean, M, Teixeira-Leite, A & Pringle, C 2008, ***Keeping the benefits flowing and growing: quantifying the benefits of wetlands in the upper Orange Senqu Basin***, Report to NeWater, a project funded under the Sixth Research Framework of the European Union, Institute of Natural Resources, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Paper available online at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/43940953_Keeping_the_benefits_flow_and_growing_quantifying_the_benefits_of_wetlands_in_the_upper_Orange_Senqu_Basin
- Broadpeak, Building back Nature II/III: How crucial is the role of wetlands as a nature-based solution? Article available online at: <https://south-asia.wetlands.org/news/wetland-conservation-restoration-and-sustainability-are-proven-and-efficient-nature-based-solutions/>

Regional Experience

- **Asia** (Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Laos PDR, Singapore, Indonesia, India)
- **Middle-East** (Turkey, Israel)
- **Europe** (Germany, Kosovo, Serbia, Romania, Lithuania, Croatia)
- **Africa** (South Africa, Ghana, Rwanda, Djibouti, Egypt, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Comores Islands)

Lender's Standards

Very familiar and experienced in working with and applying the following standards of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) in ESIA and ESDD:

- **World Bank** ESS
- **International Finance Corporation**: IFC PS (2012)
- **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development**: EBRD ESR (2024)
- **European Investment Bank**: EIB ESS (2022)
- **KfW Development Bank**: Bankengruppe Sustainability Guidelines (2020)
- **Asian Development Bank**: ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009)
- **African Development Bank**: AfDB ISS (2024)

Also experienced in applying and interpreting the 'Exclusion Lists' and 'Exclusion Criteria' of KfW, IFC, EBRD, EIB, ADB, AfDB, and Proparco.

Legislation and Guidelines

- Experience in working with environmental legislation for various countries as per regional experience.
- Very familiar with the EU Directives covering EIA, EU Habitats and Species Directives
- Familiar with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) in biodiversity assessment and management, management plans and offsets for various sectors including construction, wind, solar, hydro-power, geothermal energy, mining, etc.