



**Date of Birth** 29 June 1972, Bonn, Germany

**Education** Master of Social Sciences, (Sociology), University of Helsinki 1999  
Finnish Matriculation Examination, Helsingin Il Normaalikoulu 1992

**Job at the City of Helsinki** Deputy Mayor for Social Affairs and Public Health 2017–

**Work Experience** **Save the Children Finland**, international programmes  
**Advocacy Advisor**, 2013–2017

**National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), international affairs unit**  
**Project Manager** 2011–2014  
**Project Director**, development of an international health care system under the management of THL, Health Systems Strengthening Technical Assistance, Project funded by Millennium Challenge Corporation in Lesotho, 2011–2012  
**Coordinator of International Affairs** 2010–2011  
**Information Officer** 2009–2010

**United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Ethiopia Office**  
**Programme Officer (Communication)** 2005–2007

**National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health, international development unit, Information Officer** 1999–2007

**Helsingin Sanomat, Journalist, Research Assistant** 1998–1999

Also researcher at Research Foundation for Studies and Education Otus rs and Student Union of the University of Helsinki, sociology teacher, for example, at the Finnish Adult Education Centre of the City of Helsinki

#### **Positions of trust at the City of Helsinki**

Health Capital Helsinki Executive Council member 1.1.2018 – 31.12.2019  
City Council, Councillor 2009–2012 and 25 May 2016–31 May 2017  
Deputy Councillor 2013–25 May 2016  
City Board, Member 26 August 2015–31 May 2017  
Early Education and Care Committee, Chairperson 2013–26 August 2015

Social Committee, Member 2009–2012  
Social Committee, Chairperson of the 2<sup>nd</sup> section 2009–2012  
City Board, Deputy Member 2009–2010

**Other positions of trust, i.a.**

Delegation of the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, Deputy Member, 15 February 2018–

Deputy Member of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council 2017–

The Finnish NGDO Platform to the European Union, Kehys, Member of the Board 2013–2017, Vice Chairperson 2015–7 June 2017.

Suomen Kasper Kasvatus- ja perheneuvonta ry, Member of the Board 2013–2015

**Publications**

Simo Mannila and Sanna Vesikansa (eds.): Social Problems and Policies in Central and Eastern European Countries. National Institute for Health and Welfare Report 42/2009.

Ali Arsalo and Sanna Vesikansa 2000. Experiences of Finnish cooperation in the health and social sectors in the Republic of Karelia (north-western Russian Federation). Policy learning curve series no. 3. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe.

Vesikansa, Sanna 1998. 55 kuukautta opintotukea. Opintotukiajan riittävyys yliopisto-opiskelijoilla. Helsinki: Opiskelijajärjestöjen tutkimussäätiö Otus rs.  
Vesikansa, Sanna & Lempinen, Petri & Suomela, Sanna 1998. Normioppimisesta tehokkaaseen opiskeluun. Helsinki: Opiskelijajärjestöjen tutkimussäätiö Otus rs.

Vesikansa, Sanna 1997. Opiskelijoiden taloudellinen tilanne ja työssäkäynti. Selvitys Helsingin yliopistossa opiskelevien taloudellisesta tilanteesta keväällä 1997. Helsinki: Helsingin yliopiston ylioppilaskunta.

Newspaper articles i.a. in Save the Children Finland's, THL's and Stakes' publications and collaboration partner newspapers/magazines, in Helsingin Sanomat 1998-99, in student magazines 1992–99. Kepa web columnist in 2006 under the pseudonym Sanna Sjöstedt.

**Studies abroad**

The Diploma for “Developing Advocacy Strategies for Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV & AIDS” Centre for African Family Studies (CAFS) in Nairobi 2006  
Erasmus exchange student in Berlin Freie Universität 1996–1997  
German language studies at Wien Summer University 1991  
Youth for Understanding exchange student in Modesto, California 1989–1990

**Language skills**

English (excellent), German (good), Swedish (good), French (satisfactory), Spanish (basics)