

# IO Ready Community



## Sofia Perusso



Read about Sofia's experience with the  
Online Course for IOs/NGOs



**Clarity | Confidence | Practicality**

"The program provides a rare combination of actionable tools, personalized coaching, and practical insights into a competitive sector, making it an invaluable resource for anyone seeking to refine their job applications and networking strategies."



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What are your backgrounds (eg. education background, nationality, age, location, and career stage (eg. years of experience))



I have a Master's degree in International Security from Sciences Po, reflecting my strong academic foundation in international relations and global governance.

I'm Brazilian, in my late twenties, and currently based in Paris. Over the past few years, **I've gained professional experience in international organizations, NGOs, and the private sector**, with roles focusing on logistics, political analysis, and resource mobilization.

I'm in the early stages of my career, specializing in international cooperation and development.

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What is your background and career stage?  
Why did you decide to take the IO Ready Career Coaching Programme for IOs/NGOs?



My background combines academic training in international security and hands-on experience in the international cooperation and development sector. While I have developed skills in research, logistics, and resource mobilization, I **felt the need to strengthen my strategies for navigating the highly competitive job market in international organizations and NGOs.**

I decided to take the IO Ready Career Coaching Programme to **gain tailored advice, practical tools, and insights into networking, CV writing, and securing meaningful roles in this field.** This program aligned perfectly with my goals of refining my applications and building confidence in my career trajectory.

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What were the most valuable insights or knowledge you gained from the program?



The program offered a **comprehensive framework for approaching career development in the IO/NGO sector**. Key takeaways included understanding how to assess whether a role aligns with my skills (e.g., the 50% skills guideline) and refining how I present my experiences in applications.

**The networking module stood out as particularly transformative**, helping me recognize the importance of follow-ups and relationship-building while also providing clear templates to structure outreach effectively. This combination of strategic and practical advice has shifted my mindset and made me more confident in navigating job opportunities.

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How did Viola's coaching, support, and personality enhance your experience of the programme?



Viola's supportive and encouraging approach made a significant impact on my experience. Her ability to **break down complex concepts into actionable, digestible steps allowed me to feel less overwhelmed and more confident.**

I also appreciated her relatable and thoughtful advice, which directly addressed challenges I've faced, like maintaining professional relationships and handling networking as a woman in diverse environments. Her **clear explanations and engaging teaching style** ensured that the program felt both inspiring and approachable.

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Are there any tangible improvements in your career goals or job search you've experienced since completing the program?



Yes, there have been **noticeable improvements**. My CV has been reorganized and rewritten to align with best practices, and I now feel more confident tailoring it to specific roles.

I've also **integrated networking strategies into my routine**, which has helped me approach professional interactions with greater clarity and purpose.

The program helped me recognize areas for improvement, like staying in touch with contacts and gave me the tools to address these gaps. While I still feel nervous about applying through portals, I approach the process with more structure and confidence now.

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Would you recommend the IO Ready Career Coaching Programme for International Organizations and NGOs?



**Without hesitation, I would recommend this program to anyone looking to build a career in international organizations or NGOs.** It provides actionable advice, relatable insights, and the tools to refine applications and networking efforts effectively.

I would tell someone considering it that this program is perfect if **you're feeling stuck or unsure about how to move forward in a competitive field.** The templates, examples, and personalized coaching create a solid foundation for approaching your career with confidence and strategy. It's also a fantastic opportunity to reflect on your strengths and areas for growth in a supportive environment.

# Ready to join the IO Ready community?



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IO Ready - International Organizations Ready



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