

Kudzanai Chimhanda

CAREER SUMMARY

I am a vibrant, 27-year-old early career development researcher and agricultural economist by training with more than four years of cumulative working experience in local-based think tanks on policy research, community development, sustainability and cross-cutting issues (gender mainstreaming and youth advocacy). I have been involved in the planning and execution of agriculture-based projects. I bring to the table an open mind, commendable research skills and dedication to learn more beyond my scope. I am looking for opportunities that further strengthen and broaden my research and communication skills while opening my interests to new avenues of fresh thinking.

CAREER HISTORY

Digital communication (September 2019 to date)

Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA ACP-EU)

Responsibilities:

- Identify and assess opportunities for CTA to use social media tools to enhance the scope, versatility, and breadth of communication
- Contribute to the development of CTA's social media strategy and take the lead for the implementation
- Active social listening, keeping track of strategic, communication trends in line with organisational themes
- Monitor, review and analyse comments and conversations on CTA's social media

Programme Officer (November 2018 – June 2019)

Ruzivo Trust, Harare

Achievements:

- Organized and coordinated the national workshop on Promoting climate finance through nationally determined contributions (NDCs) for smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe
- Researched and documented on access to and land tenure thematic for a Scenario Analysis assignment.
- Co-authored the biannual organizational newsletter – RuziVoices (2019) which informs the public domain on the work undertaken by Ruzivo
- Co-facilitated the 2018 national workshop on Renewable Energy for Social and Economic Transformation.
- Social media reporting and engagement

Programme Officer (August – November 2018)

Women and Resources in Eastern and Southern Africa (WARESA), Harare & Lusaka

Responsibilities:

- Coordinated, co-facilitated and reported deliberations of the high-level country dialogue on CAADP/Malabo in Zambia which strived to strengthen inclusivity between government and non-state actors at country level
- Conducted a desk review research on strengthening capacities of rural women small scale farmers: Local innovation to climate change resilience and adaptation mechanism.

PERSONAL DETAILS

M : +263 774784487

E : kudzanaicy@gmail.com

Skype : kchimhanda

Twitter : @KudzieChimzy

SKILLS

- *Research and analysis*
- *Partnership building and networking*
- *Media and information management (online)*
- *Flexibility and adaptability*
- *IT skills*
- *Good command and writing skills in English*
- *Teamwork and team-building*
- *Digital communication*

- Supported the development of concept notes and expressions of interests for external bidding aligned to the organization's work on women in agriculture, climate change, CAADP, aflatoxin mitigation and indigenous knowledge systems

Research Assistant (July 2015 – July 2018)

Barefoot Education for Afrika Trust (BEAT), Harare

Achievements:

- Researched and drafted a working paper outlining existing regional and international land governance frameworks in which national land policies will be assessed against (AFSA consultancy, 2018).
- Part of the team that developed the BEAT-FARA agricultural innovation system policy practice index (AIS-PPI), a tool for country self-assessment and capacity strengthening in agricultural innovation systems policy practice. (FARA, 2017)
- Part of the team which worked on the project: Fostering sustainable transformation of agriculture in Africa through promotion of the inclusive green economy approach: The case of selected livestock value chains in Southern Africa (study commissioned by UNECA, 2017).
- Researched and drafted the country papers (Zimbabwe, Senegal and Madagascar) on the state of adopting a green economy within the livestock sector
- Co-facilitated the climate smart agriculture consultative workshop (BEAT, CTDO and Phiri Award – PAFFIT, 17 May 2017); Compiled and reviewed the workshop materials, and drafted the final workshop report
- Part of the team that worked on the NEPAD consultancy (2016) on an analysis and documentation of best practices and lessons from Africa's community experiences on agricultural-driven rural transformation
- Drafted the synthesis paper summarising best practices and lessons from Africa's community experiences on agricultural-driven rural transformation with a focus on expended jobs and economic opportunities for youth and women
- Co-facilitated and reported on the irrigation and water Management workshop (ICRISAT; Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation development and McGill University; July 22-24 2015)

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCY

WeEffect Consultancy identifying business opportunities and analysing the policy environment for business development and green job creation in nine districts – Goromonzi, Seke, Gweru, Gwanda, Umzingwane, Zaka, Mutare, Chimanimani and Buhera in Zimbabwe (August 2018)

- Part of the team that prepared the inception report detailing the proposed work plan,
- Undertook a stakeholder mapping categorizing according to the public sector, private sector, civic and community, NGO, parastatals and financial institutions.
- Conducted a general desk study on relevant literature, reports, policies, guidelines and other documentation.
- Developed and pre-tested the research instruments (qualitative and quantitative tools)
- Undertook a natural resource endowment analysis, assessing opportunities in the agriculture sector; assessed the renewable energy sector, state of housing and opportunities for the rural housing sector
- Analysed data collected and presented findings to communities in Seke, Goromonzi and Gweru Urban to strengthen/validate the report

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science Honours in Agriculture (Agricultural Economics and Extension) 2017 University of Zimbabwe

Executive Certificate in Project Management 2016 University of Zimbabwe

PUBLICATIONS

1. Mhene A. and Chimhanda K. (2018) Op-ed on Women's role in mitigating aflatoxins featured in PACA News *A quarterly newsletter of the Partnership of Aflatoxin Control in Africa – African Union Vol 5, Issue 2, April – June 2018*
2. Katema T., Zvinavashe A., Gwata., and Chimhanda K. (2017) An Analysis of the Viability of Winter Wheat Farming under the A1 Land Resettlement Model in Zimbabwe: A Case Study of Mazowe. *Journal of Economics and Sustainable Development* www.iiste.org ISSN 2222-1700 (Paper) ISSN 2222-2855 (Online) Vol.8, No.16, 2017