

JESSICA CLAIRE

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced agricultural professional for more than 20 years as a researcher/innovator, as an expert/specialist and in coordinating different agricultural Programme activities. Excellent ability and practical experience to apply agricultural skills/innovations to practice at ground level and yield excellent results. Excellent experience in different thematic areas concerning agricultural interventions like enhancement of crop production, working on the energy to agriculture nexus, climate resilient livelihood development, and crop value chains development/market system resilience development. Considerable experience in writing scientific papers and research proposals in the areas of crop and soil science. Development of guidelines/manuals and provision of ToT for practitioners, and organization of platforms at different levels in enhancing agricultural livelihoods.

SKILLS

- Agriculture

WORK HISTORY

01/2022 to Current **Crop Value Chain Specialist**

University Of Nebraska Medical Center – Omaha, NE

- Supporting RTI Market staff, private sectors, and grantees in the implementation of livelihood deepening activities within resilience for food security activity (RFSA) in PSNP targeted Woreda/Households, including through business advisory service providers and technical advisory service providers
- Incorporating market facilitation approaches in livelihood deepening activities and support other project teams to collaborate with, leverage and strengthen market-based interventions and approaches
- Work to create climate change/shock resilience farming system through market system resilience development
- Coordinate the design and implementation of crop value chain activities and ensure implementation of marketing and value-chain development activities according to approved plan
- Provide technical oversight and serve as a subject matter expert in crop value chains
- Link farmers engaged in the selected value chains with financial institution, agro-dealers/ private sector to access different agricultural inputs
- Coordinate farmer capacity building in the use of good agricultural practices to increase productivity and quality, as well as in the adoption of climate smart agriculture, by involving local service providers and bureau of agriculture, among other partners
- Develop relationships with Government of Ethiopia (BoA, Cooperatives agency) and private agribusiness counterparts
- Contribute to grants management, monitoring and evaluation, learning, work plan development, communications and report writing.

06/2017 to 12/2021 **Bio-slurry (Organic fertilizer) Expert**

SNV Ethiopia – City, STATE

- Coordinating eight program regions in Ethiopia in bio-slurry related implementation activities, including on-farm field trials, value chain development, promotion and scaling up of bio-slurry
- Provision of technical support to eight regional programs in Ethiopia on planning and implementation on bio-slurry activities as a quality organic fertilizer for improving soil health and creating sustainable agriculture (climate smart agriculture)
- Leads information collection, compilation and dissemination related to the science and technology behind bio-slurry management, utilization, promotion and mainstreaming in Ethiopia including best-fit practice documentation and dissemination including preparation, duplication, and distribution of guidelines
- Coordinating mainstreaming of bio-slurry to ministry of agriculture, Bureaus of agriculture, Research institutes and Universities in collaboration with regional program staffs
- Capacity development of regions in using bio-slurry including for kitchen gardening as part of alternative income source and improving nutrition
- Organize events, workshops, and platform to key stakeholders in mainstreaming and promotion of bio-slurry
- Work with private sectors in bio-slurry standardization, and bio-slurry promotion and marketing.

05/2011 to 05/2017 **Agricultural Expert/Innovator**

Capacity Building For Scaling Up Of Evidence-based Best Practices In Agricultural Production In Ethiopia (CASCAPE) Project – City, STATE

- Coordinating identification and validation of improved technologies/best practices for major crops in western Amhara
- Planning, designing and implementation of validation/field trial of best agricultural practices on farmers' fields and FTCs
- Identification and validation of agricultural practices to create climate smart agriculture and nutritive sensitive agriculture
- Capacity development of DAs and SMSs and assisting Ministry of agriculture/Bureau of agriculture on the scaling of best practices validated by the project
- Organizing stakeholder workshop, platforms, events, and field days, preparation of manuals and leaflets
- Preparing of annual plan including budget and detail work plan
- Preparation of half year and annual report and technical report for each innovation theme.

11/2002 to 04/2011 **Researcher**

Amhara Regional State Agricultural Research Institute (ARARI) – City, STATE

- Development and planning of crop research themes (Pulse crops)
- Designing and implementation of multi-location trials and ensure quality data collection
- Data analysis, interpretation and report writing
- Demonstration and pre-scaling up of improved technologies
- Capacity development of experts and DAs on improved technologies.

EDUCATION

10/2008

M.Sc. in Agronomy
Haramaya University

07/2002

B.Sc. in Plant Sciences
Haramaya University