

ANN - CHRISTIN BERGER

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PROFILE

I am a value chain expert and organization development practitioner with almost 10 years of working experience with individuals, private enterprises and public institutions. I enjoy working on organizational, economic, socio-cultural, technical and strategic issues together with partners and clients in a creative, constructive and solution-oriented way. I am a versatile person and a good communicator with a quick grasp of new facts and situations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

09/2018 – 11/2018

GFA Group / Ghana Skills Development Initiative (GSDI) in Accra, Ghana. Lead Consultant to conduct a Skills Gap Analysis for the Development of Competency-based Training Curricular.

Role: Lead consultant for the conceptualization and coordination of a Skills Gap Analysis to define occupational standards along the cashew, mango and oil palm value chains and to identify qualified institutions that can deliver competency-based trainings in line with the National Qualification Framework for Agricultural Technical Vocational Educational Training (ATVET).

08/2018 – 12/2019

Mim Cashew Agricultural Processing Ltd. in Mim, Ghana. Technical Consultant to conduct a Return on Investment (ROI) Study on Investments into Sexual and Reproductive Health Right of Employees.

Role: Technical consultant for the development of an ROI methodology to monitor effects of a Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights program on employee engagement as well as efficiency, effectiveness of company operations.

01/2016 – 07/2018

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Accra, Ghana. Adviser for Sector Organization & Portfolio Manager at the Competitive Cashew initiative with working experiences in Burkina Faso, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique and Togo.

Role: Portfolio manager for Ghana and Togo, providing advisory services on policy development, capacity development trainings, project acquisition and management support to companies and public institutions.

Sector Analysis & Policy Advice:

- Supporting the Ministries of Agriculture and Industry in creating national sector strategies and developing policies and projects.
- Advising the Ministries of Agriculture and Industry in setting up a national institution to promote the growth of the cashew industry and to regulate sector activities.

- Organizing and facilitating discussion platforms for private and public sector partners on agricultural policy development to advocate for a favorable business climate.

Agricultural Value Chain Development:

- Conducting value chain mappings and analyses.
- Conducting a benchmarking study of the cashew processing industry to determine targeted support for technical assistance and business development services.
- Providing advisory services to private companies to define parameters for increasing effectiveness and efficiencies of their cashew businesses.
- Assembling value chain actors, implementing partners and the donor community to ensure complementarities in the implementation of activities towards sector development.
- Supporting the formation and inception phase of a national processors association in Ghana.

Strategy, Communication & Training:

- Preparing annual work plans for value chain components.
- Organizing and facilitating strategic planning workshops, board meetings and international conferences (Germany, Ghana, Benin, Mozambique, and Côte d'Ivoire).
- Supporting in the conceptualization and implementation of a large-system training program for value chain actors from twenty countries in Africa.

Acquisition, Program Design & Implementation:

- Acquisition and project management (planning, implementing and monitoring activities) of a Trilateral Cooperation between Ghana, Brazil and Germany focused on agricultural research and processing.
- Acquisition of project grants from the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and EU (3-10 million EUR). Lead in the conceptualization and formulation of the SECO project.
- Preparation of a concept note for the Competitive African Groundnut initiative (Ghana & Malawi)

09/2013 – 12/2015

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Accra, Ghana.
Communications Manager at the Competitive Cashew initiative.**

Role: Responsible for the documentation and promotion of project activities, public relations, internal and external communication, knowledge management, conceptualization of online and social media platforms as well as technical publications and training materials.

Strategy & Reporting:

- Preparation of progress reports for board meetings, commissioning and project partners such as the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, SECO and EU Ghana Delegation.
- Preparation and coordination of a project evaluation in Ghana & Côte d'Ivoire.

Communication, Public Relations & Training Material Development:

- Development and implementation of an annual communication strategy.
- Organization of national and international press conferences.
- Development of newsletters, fact sheets, success stories and various articles for online and social media.
- Development and design of three websites.
- Conceptualization of agricultural training materials: ten technical video, twelve radio shows, several handbooks, harvest calendars and five processing manuals in cooperation with private and public sector partners.

10/2012 – 09/2013

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Accra, Ghana.
Communication Officer, African Cashew initiative**

09/2011 – 03/2012

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Accra, Ghana.
Intern, Communication Department, African Cashew initiative**

02/2011 – 08/2011

**Federal Agency for Technical Relief (Technisches Hilfswerk, THW) in Bonn, Germany.
Intern and Consultant for Public Relation & Communication**

Role: Research for bachelor thesis and management of press relations during the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan.

- Conducted interviews with immigrants in language schools and socio-cultural organizations across Germany to inquiry about their perception of the THW.
- Gained excellent insights into crises communication in the THW press office during the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan.
- Learned about and worked within the structures, hierarchies and processes of a federal agency in Germany.

EDUCATION

01/2016 – 03/2018

Master of Arts in Organization Development at the Organization Development Institute, in Accra, Ghana.

- Conducted an Organizational Culture Assessment with the Industry Association: African Cashew Alliance.
- Conducted a Team Building Sessions with GIZ and Impact Hub Accra.
- MA Thesis (March 2018) *Process facilitation towards the establishment of a regulatory board for the cashew sector in Ghana.*

09/2007 – 05/2011

Bachelor of Arts in International Communication at the Hanze University of Applied Sciences, in Groningen, The Netherlands.

- Graduated with Honors.
- Exchange Semester at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana (August 2009 – January 2010).
- BA Thesis (June 2011) *The image of technical relief organizations among immigrants in Germany: The case of the federal agency for technical relief (Technisches Hilfswerk).*

SKILLS

Languages

German (native) | English (fluent) | French (advanced) | Portuguese (basic) | Dutch (basic)

IT

- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Photoshop and InDesign, Web Design
- Literate in Social Media and Internet Communications

TRAININGS

- Value Links 2.0, certified by GIZ in June 2018
- Research and Agricultural Processing Training, certified by the EMBRAPA Brazil in November 2017
- Capacity WORKS, certified by GIZ in December 2012