

LAURA K. CRAMER

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RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCE

Laura Cramer has 13 years of professional experience in international development, with a focus on food security, research for development, and monitoring and evaluation. As a consultant for the multi-regional CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), she has assisted in preparing data collection tools and analyzing baseline data from research sites across 18 countries, conducted qualitative research in rural Kenya, worked to build research partnerships in the East African region, collaborated to build an impact pathway for the global CCAFS program, and participated in proposal reviews for project funding. In previous positions, she has worked with local enumerators in east and southern Africa to conduct qualitative interviews, focus group discussions and quantitative surveys at the household level in various locations and conditions.

Laura has published several articles in peer-reviewed journals and has been asked by other journals to provide peer-reviews. In addition, she has co-authored many working papers and reports in the fields of food security, agricultural development, gender, and climate change.

Laura also has experience in program design, proposal writing, and program management.

Prior to working with CCAFS, she collaborated with colleagues on successful proposals submitted to USDA's Food for Progress and Micronutrient-Fortified Food Aid Products Pilot programs, USAID's Food for Peace program, and internal Cornell University grants. She has been responsible for and contributed to various project and program reports over the past 13 years. She oversaw USDA and USAID PL 480-funded food security programs; managed budgets, supervised report writing by field staff, liaised with funders, and monitored execution of activities.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Independent consultant

July 2010 – present

Home-based with travel as needed

- **CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).** May 2012 – present.
Provide overall programmatic support to the Policies and Institutions for Climate Resilient Food Systems Flagship. Contribute to scientific articles using baseline data for publication in several journals. Collaborate with consortium partners on resilience measurement proposal preparation. Contribute to analyses of baseline data and site level syntheses across benchmark sites; review baseline survey data and reports for each site. Assist in the development of tools for midline data collection. Support development of a results-based management trial and the theory of change and impact pathway for Phase 2 of program. Provide coverage for the Science Officer during her maternity leaves, including staff supervision, partner interaction, budget management and activity planning.

- **Catholic Relief Services.** August 2014 – June 2015.
Lead the development of the Price Monitoring, Analysis and Response Kit (MARKit) guidance manual and supporting materials. Manual and supporting materials provide detailed guidance on monitoring prices during food assistance programs.
- **Overseas Development Institute.** August 2014 – April 2015.
Participating researcher on a team conducting a systematic review of literature relating to the uptake and use of climate information in decision-making.
- **Hormel Foods Corporation.** November – December 2012.
Final evaluation of a USDA Micronutrient-Fortified Food Aid Products Pilot Program implemented in Guatemala. Conducted interviews with key stakeholders, review of project documentation, and preparation of the final evaluation report.
- **CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).** May 2011 – March 2012.
Development and management of research partnerships, workshop and conference organization, and coordination of the evaluation of partner research proposals for the East Africa Regional Program.
- **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).** November – December 2010.
Organized and helped facilitate a Nairobi-based Net-Mapping workshop with stakeholders in the Kenyan maize seed sector. Contacted attendees, made arrangements with the selected venue, helped facilitate sessions and wrote final workshop report.
- **International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI).** October 2010.
Compiled inventory of research on pastoral and agropastoral systems for Centre Commissioned External Review. Collected, summarized and created database of relevant papers, articles and other publications.
- **Agro-Stability Development.** October 2010.
Assisted in the preparation of two USDA Food for Education proposals for a client organization. Helped develop logistical frameworks, conduct secondary research, and write each proposal.
- **CGIAR Challenge Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).** August – September 2010.
Worked on a rapid assessment of vulnerability of food systems in the global tropics. Work included a collation of data availability on indicators of food insecurity, compilation of an evaluation report, and presentation to a workshop of climate experts.
- **Cornell University and Catholic Relief Services-Kenya.** June – July 2010.
Collaborated with two graduate students and local CRS staff to conduct household and trader surveys as part of a Market Information and Food Insecurity Response Analysis (MIFIRA) assessment in Mathare (informal settlement of Nairobi) and Makueni (rural district in Eastern Province).

Program Coordinator, Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development (CIIFAD), Cornell University Ithaca, NY, USA
February 2010 – June 2010

- Promote faculty, staff and student engagement with international development activities
- Coordinate and contribute to funding proposals for international agencies
- Update and maintain CIIFAD and related websites

Program Officer, Market Matters Inc. Ithaca, NY, USA
January 2008 – January 2010

- Case study writing and analysis, including background research, data collection, writing and revising, and preparation of teaching notes
- Assist with implementation of executive education programs in South Africa and elsewhere
- Work with corporate strategic partners for grant applications and partnership proposals, maintaining ongoing communications as needed

Research Assistant, Emerging Markets Program, Cornell University Ithaca, NY, USA
January 2008 – January 2010

- Conduct research in the areas of emerging markets, agribusiness, and entrepreneurship
- Assist with research and writing for grant proposals
- Provide support for courses and visiting scholars
- Lead student groups on field course assignments and assist to write case studies of small businesses from emerging markets

Training Assistant, International Programs/CALS, Cornell University Ithaca, NY, USA
January 2007 – December 2007

- Assist with hosting of international visiting scholars and administration of Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship program. Help orient visitors and Humphrey Fellows to life in the United States, including providing an introduction to Cornell University systems and answering questions on cultural matters.

Apprentice, Full Belly Farm Guinda, CA, USA
June 2005 – June 2006

- Participate in all duties of organic vegetable, fruit, flower, and animal farm: planting by hand and tractor, weeding, greenhouse management, picking fruits and vegetables, washing produce, packing produce, seed saving, animal chores, and selling at farmer's markets.

Senior Program Officer, Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture, Counterpart International Washington, DC, USA
January 2004 – June 2005

- Serve as main contact point for overseas personnel on USDA and USAID food aid programs
- Liaise with donor agencies in Washington, DC
- Aid in grant writing and proposal preparation; create and monitor budgets
- Travel internationally to monitor program progress and conduct assessments

Program Assistant, Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture, Counterpart International Washington, DC, USA
July 2002 – December 2003

- Assist in background research for proposal writing
- Knowledge management of department resources

EDUCATION

M.P.S. in International Agriculture and Rural Development, August 2010

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

GPA: 3.8

Thesis: Challenges and Opportunities of Using Livestock to Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS on Affected Households in Kenya

Relevant Coursework:

- Evaluation Design
- Economics of Agricultural Development
- Tropical Cropping Systems
- Globalization, Food Security and Nutrition
- Tropical Livestock
- Food Policy for Developing Nations
- Farmer-Centered Research and Extension
- Integrated Pest Management
- Assessing Food and Nutrition in a Social Context
- Training and Development: Theory and Practice

B.A., Anthropology, May 2002

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Robert E. Cook Honors College, Indiana, PA, USA

Concentration: Food and Nutrition

GPA: 3.8

PUBLICATIONS

Pérez C, Jones E, Kristjanson P, **Cramer L**, Thornton P, Förch W, Barahona C. 2015. How resilient are farming households and communities to a changing climate in Africa? A gender-based perspective. *Global Environmental Change* 34: 95-107. Available online at: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378015000825>.

Jones L, Champalle C, Chesterman S, **Cramer L**, Crane TA. 2015. Identifying constraining and enabling factors to the uptake of medium- and long-term climate information in decision making. CCAFS Working Paper no. 113. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Copenhagen, Denmark. Available online at: www.ccafs.cgiar.org.

Förch W, Kristjanson P, **Cramer L**, Barahona C, Thornton PK. 2014. Back to baselines: measuring change and sharing data. *Agriculture & Food Security* 3:13. (Available at <http://www.agricultureandfoodsecurity.com/content/3/1/13>).

Kristjanson P, Garlick C, **Cramer L**, Förch W, Thornton PK, Ndungu A. 2014. Global summary of CCAFS household baseline survey results, Version 2. CCAFS Working Paper 56. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Copenhagen, Denmark. Available online at: www.ccafs.cgiar.org.

Pérez C, Jones E, Kristjanson P, **Cramer L**, Thornton P, Förch W, Barahona C. 2014. How resilient are farming households, communities, men and women to a changing climate in Africa? CCAFS Working Paper 80. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Copenhagen, Denmark. Available online at: www.ccafs.cgiar.org.

Mabaya E, **Cramer L**. 2014. Growth in a globalized industry: The case of Hillside Green Growers and Exporters Ltd. *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review*. Vol. 17, Special Issue B. (Available at http://www.ifama.org/files/IFAMR/Vol%2017/Special%20Issue%20B/Hillsidegreen_25.pdf).

- Mahoo H, Radeny M, Kinyangi J, **Cramer L** (eds). 2013. Climate change vulnerability and risk assessment of agriculture and food security in Ethiopia: Which way forward? CCAFS Working Paper 59. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Copenhagen, Denmark. Available online at: www.ccafs.cgiar.org.
- Thornton P, **Cramer L** (eds). 2012. Impacts of climate change on the agricultural and aquatic systems and natural resources within the CGIAR's mandate. CCAFS Working Paper 23. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Copenhagen, Denmark. Available online at: www.ccafs.cgiar.org.
- Ericksen P, Thornton P, Notenbaert A, **Cramer L**, Jones P, and Herrero M. 2011. Mapping hotspots of climate change and food insecurity in the global tropics. CCAFS Report no. 5. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Copenhagen, Denmark. Available online at: www.ccafs.cgiar.org.
- Michelson H, Lentz E, Mulwa R, Morey M, **Cramer L**, McGlinchy M and Barrett, C. 2011. Cash, Food or Vouchers in Urban and Rural Kenya? An Application of the Market Information and Food Insecurity Response Analysis Framework. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1844594>
- Cramer L** and Wandira S. 2010. "Strengthening the Role of Women in the Food Systems of Sub-Saharan Africa to Achieve Nutrition and Health Goals." In *The African Food System and its Interaction with Human Health and Nutrition*, ed. Per Pinstrup-Andersen. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.
- Mabaya E, **Cramer L**, Mahiga V, Pham H, Simpson T and Tang X. 2009. "Supplying Improved Seed to Farmers in Rural Kenya: the Case of Freshco Kenya Ltd." *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review*. 12(1): 1-20.

SKILLS

Computer Software: Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint; DoView; InStat
Languages: English (native), Spanish (moderate), Kiswahili (beginner)

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

Africa: Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia
Asia: Vietnam
Latin America: Guatemala, Honduras, Belize, and Nicaragua

TRAININGS ATTENDED

Statistics Made Simple: Online introduction to statistics course through the University of Reading Statistical Services Centre. February – May 2015.

Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis (EMMA): Attended training held in Mombasa, Kenya, November 1 – 5, 2010.

Market Information and Food Insecurity Response Analysis (MIFIRA): Course at Cornell University, January 25 – March 10, 2010.