

## Valentine Kamau

### Project Management | Stakeholder Engagement

#### Profile Summary

Project Management Professional with 7+ years' experience in impactful and transformative work within public, private and development sectors in the health and nutrition ecosystem. A vibrant team player who drives project plans from idea to scale through effective stakeholder engagement, strategic thinking, problem solving and adept analysis skills. I thrive in environments where I can solve problems that have the potential to improve quality of life significantly and sustainably.

#### Competencies

- ❖ **Project management and implementation:** Exceptional ability to manage multiple aspects of a project from ideation to completion systematically.
- ❖ **Partnership and relationship building:** Ability in partnership building to maintain fruitful stakeholder engagements with adaptability and flexibility.
- ❖ **Communication:** Excellent interpersonal abilities, listening skills, writing and verbal skills across all levels of interaction and multicultural settings.
- ❖ **Strategy:** Highly strategic mindset with ability to identify and prioritize what's important in any project. I use innovative approaches to work, with ability to organize chaos into coherent logical plans.

#### Achievements

##### Africa Health Business (AHB)

- ❖ Establishing and nurturing strategic relationships with organizations in the private and public healthcare space that facilitate the advancement of equitable healthcare in Africa.
- ❖ Directing, organizing, and participating in high level in-person and virtual meetings (webinars and exclusive roundtable sessions) with industry leaders and stakeholders to present the business case for collaboration opportunities in projects to strengthen Africa's healthcare system.

##### International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

- ❖ The impactful project I implemented was featured on the Deutsche Welle (DW) / Eco-at-Africa documentary showcasing solutions to advance food and nutrition security in Africa amidst the challenge of climate change. Additionally, I presented at a UN FAO conference that was attended by 580 delegates from 46 countries across the globe and was consequently recognized as one of the top 7 finalists for the Young African Scientist award.
- ❖ Product development of highly nutritious products that addressed the malnutrition problem in project focus countries: Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Zambia, Sudan. This had the overall significant impact of health and nutrition improvement.

##### Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)

- ❖ Trained 100+ public health care workers in the maternal, newborn, and child health project on various aspects of health systems and maternal, newborn and child health which resulted in reduced mortality rates and better service to communities of over 3000.
- ❖ Developed an essential project guide that ensured all aspects of training were delivered coherently and in time. This served as a lesson-learned reference point for future projects.

#### Education

- ❖ **Project Management Professional Program** | Strathmore University Business School | 2022
- ❖ **MSc. Nutrition** | Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology | 2012 - 2014
- ❖ **BSc. Biochemistry** | Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology | 2006 - 2009

#### Working Experience

##### Management Associate | Africa Health Business (AHB) | November 2020 - Present

- ❖ Project design and implementation in alignment with client requirements. This involves effective and efficient knowledge management and communication strategies for the various simultaneous projects. In addition, comprehensive monitoring, and evaluation (M&E) for the entire project cycle.

- ❖ Developing articles, concept notes and project proposals on topics that are aligned to the agenda of improving healthcare in Africa. Additionally, articulating technical concepts to various stakeholders in an eloquent, easy to understand manner.
- ❖ Establishing and managing various stakeholder engagements within the public, private and development sector and additionally, maintaining strategic partnerships with various partners to establish working collaborative relationships and ensuring a mutually beneficial and sustainable engagement.
- ❖ Successful organization and implementation of conferences, webinars, and executive roundtable meetings that are essential for stakeholder outreach and engagements for different projects to share and identify key insights and expert opinions with a focus on quality, affordability, and equity in the African Healthcare system.
- ❖ Effective and efficient support and management of various project budgets and contracts, anticipating issues, and proactively addressing them while ensuring collaboration with all stakeholders in the ecosystem of the project lifecycle.

**Project Consultant | International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) | April 2016 - March 2020**

- ❖ Extensive productive engagement with various donors and other multisectoral stakeholders on different aspects for every project milestone. This included making stage by stage presentations to explain project details. This ensured all stakeholders were up to date and ensured a cohesive flow of all project plans.
- ❖ Carried out qualitative and quantitative data analysis and provided thought leadership by report writing, literature reviews, and manuscript development for various projects. This was useful in showing progress and results in a collective easy to understand format.
- ❖ Project coordination, review and assessment of issues and trends for proper implementation of programmes and projects and preparation of impact evaluation studies.

**Project Coordinator | Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) | June 2014- December 2015**

- ❖ Directed the sensitization of public health workers on the importance of Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) /Zinc usage in children under five years' diarrhea cases in Nairobi County government dispensaries, clinics, and hospitals. Compared to 2011, 3340 more diarrhea deaths among children under five were averted in 2014 due to increases in ORS and zinc coverage and dispensation.
- ❖ Programming and implementation of Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) training among health workers thus enabling workers to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of a child. As a result, cases of childhood morbidity and mortality due to infectious diseases significantly reduced.
- ❖ Delivered strategic project management support while developing strong resourceful relationships with local authorities, private sector stakeholders as well as public sector stakeholders in the Ministry of Health (MoH).