

Curriculum Vitae: Tamara Merrill

Nationality	United States of America; South African residency in process
Education	MA, Development Studies (2012) Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University BA, Social Sciences (2007) University of Washington
Languages	English (fluent)
Employment record	
2017 - Present	General Manager OneWorld Sustainable Investments
2014 - 2017	Programme Development Manager Orbis Africa
2012 - 2014	National Economic and Skills Development Manager Epilepsy South Africa
1998 - 2010	Program Manager Highline Community College

Relevant professional experience

October 2017 - current
OneWorld Sustainable Investments
General Manager

Project and Project Finance Management: Tracking projects and informing decisions on new projects, project deadlines and project delivery, across all OneWorld projects, from project contracting to conclusion; coordinating decision support systems with business development activities and deadline scheduling; managing project finances in line with project budgets; project and grant reporting and monitoring

Project Delivery: Coordinating individual projects as these arise and within targeted thematic focus areas of work; provide relevant research, technical advisory and stakeholder engagement management as appropriate. Including project coordination role in joint project with the South African National Planning Commission and the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation which seeks to develop a social compact to inform policy implementation for a sustainable and equitable future.

Business Development: Assist in managing financial and administrative aspects of proposal development and informing decisions on which proposals to develop, as part of the business development committee; ensuring business development decision support tools are in place and continuously updated.

Office management: generally, ensuring the smooth running of the office and its various systems.

June – October 2017
Orbis International
Independent Consultant

Conduct **detailed district assessments** of the provision and access of eye health services within Gauteng province to determine key provincial level gaps in the eye health system. Assessment included eye health services from all clinical services ranging from clinic to surgical output as well as service integration with Community Health Workers, Traditional Healers and other auxiliary health service providers. Assessment included desktop research, including statistical analysis of identified health indicators, as well as interviews with government, ophthalmologists, optometrists and various health professionals.

	Outputs include three year programme strategy and detailed project plan, including targets, workplan and budget.
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September 2017	<p>Orbis International Independent Consultant</p> <p>Conduct a project evaluation for programme activities with University Teaching Hospital including efficiency and effectiveness assessment within the context of political priorities, policy, other existing and related projects. Developed a detailed three year strategic project plan, Theory of Change, workplan and budget.</p>
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June 2017	<p>Sustainable Livelihood Foundation</p> <p>Independent Consultant, Research</p> <p>Review and edit nine provincial reports (South Africa) and a final aggregate report to ensure content is consistent, conclusions are supported by evidence, data presented is consistent and accurate and organisation /structure is logical.</p>
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April – May 2017	<p>Orbis International Independent Consultant</p> <p>Conduct feasibility, reliability and sustainability assessment of project activities for previous three years within three provinces in Zambia, with additional project opportunities investigated for political support and feasibility for new project implementation. Develop three-year country strategy that incorporated political priorities, national policy priorities, Orbis Africa strategic framework and coherently links multiple programmes operating within different parts of the country. Outputs included high level national strategy, including project outputs, targets, and budget.</p>
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March 2017	<p>Sustainable Livelihoods Foundation</p> <p>Independent Consultant</p> <p>Revise and update training materials for Resource Economics manual for NQF6 training manual delivered by Southern African Wildlife College.</p>
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March 2014 – Feb 2017	<p>Orbis Africa Programme Development Manager</p> <p>Conceptualisation, design and implementation of public health programmes and projects, focusing on strengthening health systems to promote improved eye health services throughout Africa. This included the conceptualisation, development and management of projects in various countries throughout Africa including leading various multi-disciplinary teams for local and national capacity development activities. Conducted research and literature reviews as part of evidence-based programme development and programme evaluations, including key monitoring and evaluation tools and processes, selected examples below.</p> <p><i>Paediatric Eye Health Project in Kumasi, Ghana</i> Development of a three-year expansion programme linking sub-specialty paediatric eye health services at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital with eye health service provision with district and community health services. This included an integrated assessment of the provision of eye health services, access and uptake through community engagement with various levels of government, institutional and communities throughout the Ashanti Region.</p> <p><i>Adult Eye Health Access in Yaoundé, Cameroon</i> Implement and manage the establishment of an adult cataract surgical centre at Yaounde Central Hospital, including the identification and purchase of specialised equipment, the</p>
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development of an integrated capacity development programme for eye health professionals and project financial management and donor reporting.

Ophthalmology Specialty Medical Training Capacity Building Programme in Malawi

Manage capacity building project with Lions Sight First Eye Hospital at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre, as the only national ophthalmology training centre, to enhance efficacy and efficiency of training programme with an aim to ensure high quality graduates upon receiving ophthalmology qualification. This included the coordination and deployment of multi-disciplinary training teams, development of a coherent training plan and identification and purchase of specialised equipment.

June 2012 -
Feb 2014

Epilepsy South Africa

National Economic and Skills Development Manager

The primary function of the position is the facilitation of gainful employment and economic empowerment through the removal of barriers to and creation of opportunities for employment and income generation initiatives. The position entailed the provision of a range of services and trainings that support entrepreneurial training and development and skills development.

Leadership and Management:

- Managed skills development at a national level, ensuring compliance with national skills development regulations
- Developed the booklet on guidelines of reasonable accommodation for people with epilepsy in accordance with the law and judicial precedence
- Developed an employment manual to promote people with epilepsy to obtain employment

Programme Development and Management:

- Designed and implemented economic development initiatives in South Africa based upon community needs and market assessment
- **Assessed employment sites** and developed plan to improve efficiency and productivity
- Developed, facilitated and presented entrepreneurship development workshops in targeted areas
- Developed proposals to fund projects.

Oct 1998 –
July 2010

Highline Community College
Program Manager

Management of a range of dynamic programmes including basic employment skills training, technical skills training by bridging our services with existing educational programmes, and workforce development through the expansion of partnerships with private and public sector businesses.

Publications and Conference Papers (selected) Books

Merrill T. (2011). *The Efficacy of Learnerships for People with Disabilities in the Western Cape*. The Association for Persons in Supported Employment, Seattle, USA