



Alberto Giani

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Piazza Martiri 2/3, 10010, Banchette, Italy

About me: I am a multilingual consultant (IT, PT, EN, ES and FR) expert in rural development and sustainable agri-food systems with over 25 years of experience and a particular interest in projects with a focus on environment, innovation and inclusion of women and young people. I have working experience in both the private, the academic and the international development sectors. I lived and worked in Italy, The Netherlands, Kenya, Brasil, Ethiopia, Liberis and Gaza Strip and I did several short consultancies in Africa and South-East Asia.

● WORK EXPERIENCE

09/08/2017 – 05/07/2020 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

INTERNATIONAL EXPERT PASTORALIST RESILIENCE – FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

My tasks were mainly related to develop strategies for building resilience, both in pastoral areas and in the urban context, trying to strengthen the links between urban and rural areas. In charge of drafting the FAO Ethiopia Lowlands Resilience Approach, in which I introduced some innovative ideas and approaches for the resilience development of the of pastoralists based on innovation and environmental and socio-economic sustainability. I also participated in the discussion, development and implementation of the two World Bank projects for Ethiopia: the Lowlands Livelihood and Resilience Project and the Livestock and Fisheries Sector Development Project in Ethiopia. After designing a new model for the development of the animal sector in pastoral areas starting from the concept of Circular Economy, I was the team leader of the research project "Feasibility analysis - Piloting Livelihood Innovations through Livestock Business Hub Models in Ethiopia" funded by the Swiss and the Italian Cooperation, which final output was the drafting of a concept note based on the study results.

09/01/2012 – 09/01/2016 – Wageningen, Netherlands

SPECIALIST ANIMAL PRODUCTION SYSTEMS AND HEALTH – WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY AND RESEARCH CENTER - CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT INNOVATION (WUR-CDI)

Developing of new proposals; organizing and giving trainings for agri-food sector professionals; team leader of the Dairy Train project (curriculum development) with Egerton University in Kenya

External consultancies, in the area of rural development, sustainable and organic agriculture, livestock production, marketing and health, farming systems, but also considering cross-cutting issues like food security, climate change, resilience, governance, multi-stakeholder processes and value chain analysis.

Coordinator of the three following courses at CDI: Milking to Potential, Agriculture in Transition and Food Security in an Urbanizing Society. Also in charge of similar short training courses in other countries. I have carried out work missions in Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa, the Philippines, Vietnam, Syria and Bangladesh.

10/07/2011 – 30/11/2011 – Gaza, Autonomous Palestinian Territories

PROJECT MANAGER – OXFAM ITALIA (UCODEP)

Coordinator of the Project: **Support to the small livestock farmers of the South and Central area of Gaza Strip.** It was a short term emergency project funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign affairs to increase food security and resilience in Gaza Strip targeting mainly goat farmers. Its main components were: feed and drug distribution, training and support to the dairy sector and a small component on small home water treatment plant for irrigation. In Charge of: Planning, Reporting and M&E (Activity and Financial); coordination with partners; writing of new proposals.

01/02/2011 – 15/03/2011 – Monrovia, Liberia

PROPOSAL WRITING CONSULTANT – ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM LIBERIA (ACF FRANCE)

Consultant for the development of the joint proposal **"Enhancing food security and nutrition in and around Monrovia and Tubmanburg"** for ACF and Welhungerhilfe on Urban Peri-Urban Agriculture for the EU Call for the Food Security Thematic Program in **Liberia** (Awarded in June 2011).

05/01/2010 – 31/01/2011 – Monrovia, Liberia

PROJECT MANAGER – CARE USA

Coordinator of the **Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture Project (UPAP) in Liberia**. This was a project funded by the EU in the framework of the EU Food Facility with a total budget of 1.8 Million Euro. It was a twin project run with a partner NGO, Welthungerhilfe with the aim of increasing agriculture and livestock production and marketing in Monrovia and Gbarnga and having UPA officially recognized by the local government as a strategy to increase resilience among the poor. It had different components (Policy, Production, Marketing and Saving and loans).

In Charge of: Planning, Reporting and M&E (Activity and Financial); Coordination with partners; Writing of new proposals; Institutional Relations with Central and Local Government.

01/07/2010 – 01/10/2010 – Monrovia, Liberia

ACTING ASSISTANT COUNTRY DIRECTOR FOR QUALITY CONTROL – CARE USA

In charge of: coordination of projects and M&E; selection of staff; writing of new proposals; institutional relations with Central Government and Donor Agencies.

Overlapping with the previous position

01/01/2007 – 01/11/2007 – Nairobi, Kenya

TEAM LEADER – TERRA NUOVA EASTERN AFRICA

Coordinator of the project **“Transboundary Environmental Project: conservation of natural resources and sustainable development in pastoral semi-arid regions of Eastern Africa”** in Kenya (Garissa, Ijara and Lamu) and Somalia (Afmadow, Badhade and Kisimayo). It was an environmental project where different components (NRM, IGA, Education, GIS, Research, Capacity Building and Networking) had to work together and interact to achieve the final objective. This project was funded by the EC and had a budget of 1.5 million Euro.

In Charge of: Planning, Reporting and M&E (Activity and Financial); Coordination with partners; Writing of new proposals; Institutional Relations with Central and Local Government.

01/08/2003 – 31/03/2007 – Nairobi, Kenya

TEAM LEADER – TERRA NUOVA EASTERN AFRICA

Coordinator of the “Rural Development in Arid Areas of Northern Kenya: Support to the Turkana Pastoral Communities Livestock Marketing”. The project was implemented in partnership with AMREF Kenya and funded by the Italian Government, with additional funds from other donors (Total budget: over 2 million Euro). The core of the project was the building of an abattoir for goats and cattle to be used as an outlet for the local pastoralists (both from Turkana and the neighbouring countries, Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia). The abattoir was completed and a cooperative and a managing committee were constituted to run the activities. In charge of: planning and reporting to the different donors (activity and financial); coordination with partners; staff supervision; M&E; proposal writing; institutional relations with Central and Local Government, NGOs, research institutions; Fund Rising.

01/01/2002 – 30/06/2002 – Naivasha, Kenya

DAIRY FARM MANAGER AND VETERINARIAN – MARULA ESTATE

In charge of: sanitary monitoring and control of the whole herd, both Dairy and Beef section (6000 heads of cattle) and goats; the breeding program for the dairy section (1000 heads of cattle); record keeping of the dairy section (Milking, pregnancy, breeding etc); milking hygiene, quality and quantity control, sales and delivery.

01/01/1992 – 31/12/2001 – Aosta, Italy

VETERINARY DOCTOR – DIPARTIMENTO DI AGRICOLTURA E FORESTAZIONE DELLA VALLE D'AOSTA

Veterinarian in charge of delivering animal health services, artificial Insemination service and treatments of repeat breeding cows in Aosta Valley.

From 1994 to 2001 I designed, started and followed up a project for the introduction of the Valdostana breed (VPR) in Brazil; it was a cross breeding program with the following local partners: the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Belo Horizonte, (UFMG) and the EMBRAPA/CNPGC of Mato Grosso do Sul and Acre.

In the same years I also worked as a private practitioner to deliver animal health services to livestock farmers in Aosta Valley and Northern Piedmont regions in Italy

01/04/1991 – 31/05/1991 – Aosta, Italy

VETERINARY DOCTOR – DIPARTIMENTO DI AGRICOLTURA E FORESTAZIONE DELLA VALLE D'AOSTA

Veterinarian in charge for the Regional vaccination campaign against Foot and Mouth disease

● SHORT CONSULTANCIES

1994 – 2016

Short term consultancies:

- 2016 feasibility study on bee- keeping and sustainable agriculture in Samburu (**Kenya**) for PCN
- 2015 Guest lecturer in the course 'WBG learning tour on Food Safety and Quality' in Wageningen (**NL**)
- 2015 Guest lecturer in the Summer course at Egerton University on System Thinking and Sustainable Farming Systems in Nakuru, **Kenya**
- 2015 Facilitator/co-organizer of the conference 'Transforming Dairy Education and Training for Health and Wealth in Africa', in Nakuru, **Kenya**
- 2015 Co-facilitator of 'Curriculum Development Workshop for the pilot of the Agriculture Higher Vocational Institute in Atareb, Syria' in Sanliurfa, **Turkey**
- 2014 Facilitator of the workshop 'Designing a professional course on Organic Agriculture at BAU, **Bangladesh**
- 2014 Guest lecturer in the Summer course at Egerton University on Indigenous Livestock Breeds and Value Chain in Nakuru, **Kenya**
- 2014 Facilitator of the workshop 'Sustainable Agriculture in South Africa' at ELF in Elgin, **South Africa**
- 2014 Facilitator of the workshop 'Innovation in the livestock sector' for the CASCAPE project in Bahir Dar, **Ethiopia**
- 2013 Coordinator of the course 'sustainable agriculture and action research' in Ba-Vi, **Vietnam**
- 2012/2013 Coordinator of the course 'Transition to sustainable crop-livestock systems in Los Banos, **The Philippines**
- 2012 Consultant for HAPP on the poultry sector in **Ethiopia** : analysis of the value chain to evaluate opportunities for investments and growth
- 2006 mission for Terra Nuova in **Mozambique** to evaluate the possibility of opening a new office in the country
- 2006 proposal writing "Pastoral system, environment and settlements in northern **Kenya**" for Terra Nuova
- 2003 evaluation mission for CISV, for a project on livestock and community development, financed by AICS in **Burundi**
- 2003 proposal writing "Poverty alleviation in the Moyale district through improvement of delivery of Veterinary services" in **Kenya** for CCM
- 2002 feasibility study for Kulima, for a livestock project in the context of the UE Food Security Programme for **Mozambique**
- 2001 evaluation mission for AVEC-PVS in **Tanzania**, on the project "Ormilo - Investigation Research into Cerebral Theileriosis in Adult African Short-Horn Cattle in Tanzania.
- 1998 I made a feasibility study for Bontempi (producer of surgical instruments) for introducing and selling their products in the **Brazilian** market.
- 1996 proposal writing on the "Sustainable development of fishing resources and micro livestock farming " for the Associação Amazonia in **Brazil**
- 1995/96 I formulated the feasibility study for a project of fish farming and low environmental impact farming system in the native communities of the Mid Rio Negro in the State of Amazon in **Brazil**.
- 1994 feasibility study on the "Introduction of small wildlife farming or the Yanomami in the area of the river Marahuià" for the Missione Salesiana, in the Amazon, **Brazil**.
- 1994/97 one month /year professional aid to the farm of the Salesian Mission in Manaus **Brazil**

● EDUCATION AND TRAINING

03/01/2008 – 21/04/2011 – P.O. Box 88, , Wageningen, Netherlands

MASTER IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, SPEC. CONSUMERS AND MARKETS – Wageningen University and Research Centre (Wageningen UR)

Organic farming and sustainable farming systems, Animal Production Systems, Value Chain Analysis, Life Cycle Assessment, Sustainable Development, Food Security, M&E, with Final Thesis in Rural sociology

Field(s) of study

- Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary : *Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary*

Rural Sociology | <https://www.wur.nl/en.htm>

Doctor in Veterinary Medicine (5 years degree, equivalent to a MSc)

Veterinary medicine and surgery, genetics, animal production, nutrition, reproduction, ethology, epidemiology, parasitology, infectious diseases and zoonosis, rural economy, inspection and control of food products, hygiene, pharmacology and pharmacotherapy. Research thesis on deer pathology

Field(s) of study

◦ Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary : *Veterinary*

<https://www.unito.it/ugov/degree/32337>

● SHORT COURSES

1998-2014

2014 “Green Entrepreneurship” at Schumacher College (UK)

2013 “Water Footprint - Concept and Application”, e-institute World Bank

2013 “Smallholder Agriculture, Environment and Climate Change”, IFAD e-learning

2012 “Cultivating an Eco-literate Worldview: Person, Place and Practice” Schumacher College (UK)

2008 “Monitoring and Evaluation of food and nutrition security” at Wageningen International (NL)

2003 “Training programme on dairy farming for rural development” at International Agricultural Centre (NL)

2001 “Veterinary Homeopathy(I)” at International Superior School of Veterinary Homeopathic Medicine “Rita Zanchi” in Cortona (Italy)

2001 “Mapping and Design in Permaculture” at Associazione Culturale Torri Superiore in Ventimiglia (Italy)

1998 Certificate of Operator in Professional Foreign Trade at the Foreign Centre of the Chambers of Commerce of Piemonte and Valle d’Aosta (Italy)

● LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): ITALIAN

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
PORTUGUESE	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
ENGLISH	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
SPANISH	C1	C1	C1	C1	B1
FRENCH	B1	B2	B1	B1	A2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

● DIGITAL SKILLS

Microsoft PowerPoint | Skype | Social Network | Google | Whatsapp | Facebook Instagram LinkedIn |
Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, Access, Power Point, Outlook.

Organizational skills

Team Working | Planning and scheduling project goals, milestones and deliverable | Organisational and planning |
Manages self and other team’s deliverables effectively. | Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

Personal and social skills

Problem Solving | Critical thinking | Leadership | Excellent writing and verbal communication skills | Motivate
team members to grow professionally and personally | interdisciplinary thinker, generalist, open, eager to learn,
curious | System thinking | Open-minded and communicative | High level of adaptability and intellectual flexibility
honed through my interdisciplinary studies | - effective interpersonal communication and delivering a good oral
presentation

● **DRIVING LICENCE**

Driving Licence: AM

Driving Licence: A1

Driving Licence: A2

Driving Licence: A

Driving Licence: B1

Driving Licence: B

● **PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

Thinking independently and out of the box

Alberto is a rural development expert, holding a first degree as a doctor in veterinary medicine (1990) and an MSc in Organic Agriculture (2011), with specialization in Consumer and Markets and thesis in Rural Sociology. He has over 25 years of working experience in sustainable agri-food systems, livestock production, agri-businesses and innovation in rural and (peri-) urban areas, both in Europe, Africa, South East Asia and Latin America. Next to providing technical inputs, he worked as a project manager in charge of both financial and activity planning, monitoring and evaluation, HR management, research planning and institutional network building. He has been working both independently and in large teams, being able to perform well in both circumstances. When implementing, monitoring or evaluating a project he always looks at it and its many components in a holistic way, as a complex system of interdependent elements and tries to find connections with similar projects or programmes in the area. He easily communicates with team members, partners and the governmental institutions contributing to the creation of a network of stakeholders that should remain and continue the activities after the conclusion of the project.

His main area of interest has shifted from the initial focus on livestock sector to the broader sustainable agri-food systems and the linkages with environment, food security, poverty alleviation, resilience, policy formulation, innovation and agri-business development.

● **ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS**

Sharing responsibilities and working as a team

Alberto has experience as a professional both in the private sector (as a private veterinarian in Italy, Kenya and Brazil and as a dairy farm manager in Kenya), in the development and / or humanitarian sector (with various NGOs like Terra Nuova, CARE and OXFAM and with the UN-FAO) and finally in the organization of courses and professional training at CDI (Wageningen University and Research, NL). He is therefore able to communicate and interact easily with different partners and stakeholders at any level and from each of these sectors. He has work experience in the implementation of projects and/or in the organization of training courses for professionals on sustainable agri-food systems in Italy, Kenya, Brazil, Ethiopia, Liberia, Gaza Strip, Mozambique, Tanzania, Burundi, Netherlands, Philippines, Vietnam, South Africa, Kenya, Ethiopia and Bangladesh.

He is able to deliver in time good quality reports, to motivate his staff and organize workshop and trainings. He usually creates a good working environment for the team and use to involve his colleagues in the discussions related to planning, monitoring and evaluation of the activities, assigning specific responsibilities.

● COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

The capacity of looking broader and bringing together

Alberto started traveling with his family at the age of 8 and lived in Italy, the former Yugoslavia, Brazil, Kenya, Liberia, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Netherlands and finally in Ethiopia. He worked in different, multidisciplinary and multicultural situations, networking with different types of actors, from civil society to local governments, research bodies and universities and he always found all this very stimulating and challenging, without ever encountering great difficulties in adapting to the new environment. Despite many years of experience and in many different contexts, he still has a strong curiosity and an open attitude towards innovation and new ideas and developed a great interest in supporting and working with young people.

Having organized and lectured in many courses for professionals at the University of Wageningen and abroad, he also developed very good communication skills and an excellent ability to make presentations. He worked both alone and in teams of experts and has always had excellent relationships with local colleagues who have worked with and for him, trying to stimulate them to feel part of a team and to grow during the period of work together, without ever having the "Boss" attitude. Finally, to describe himself in few words, he is a person who has the great ability to go beyond the usual approaches to development, to bring together people, ideas and different points of view and to propose innovative solutions.

● PUBLICATIONS

Articles and publications

- Feed inventory and feed balance of Ethiopia: salient findings and way forward. Makkar H.; Giani A.; Bah A.K.. Feedipedia. October 2019 #52. Broadening Horizons. www.feedipedia.org.
- Emergency animal feed and feeding strategies for dry areas. Makkar H.; Giani A.; and Bah A.K.. Feedipedia. January 2018 #49. Broadening Horizons. www.feedipedia.org.
- Enhancing participatory evaluation in a humanitarian aid project. Moruzzo R; Rossignoli C; Giani A. Evaluation: *The International Journal of Theory, Research and Practice* 23 (2017)2. - ISSN 1356-3890 - p. 134 - 151.
- Groeiende bedrijfsclusters moeten Keniaanse steden van zuivel voorzien. Lee, J. van der; Giani, A. (2014). *Syscope* 32.
- [How are innovations in the Agrofood sector going to scale? Towards a methodology for comparative analysis of transitions towards sustainable food provision in Europe and Africa](#). Berg, J. van den; Vellema, S.; Wigboldus, S.A.; Lee, J. van der; Giani, A.; Wolf, P.L. de; Potters, J.I. (2012). *Wageningen UR*, - 7 p.
- SWOT Analysis. Cornelissen, J.M.R.; Vernooij, A.G.; Giani, A.; Duns, H. (2012) *In: Poultry in Ethiopia: a survey of production, value chain and marketing of commercial poultry in Ethiopia The Hague: Netherlands-African Business Council*, - p. 34.
- Poultry Value Chain Analysis. Cornelissen, J.M.R.; Vernooij, A.G.; Giani, A. (2012). *In: Poultry in Ethiopia: a survey of production, value chain and marketing of commercial poultry in Ethiopia The Hague: Netherlands-African Business Council*, - p. 20 - 25.
- [Emergency measures or development? : Avian Influenza eradication projects in Indonesia](#). Giani, A.; Nell, A.J.; (2012). *Rural 21: the international journal for rural development* 46 (2). - p. 40 - 43.
- Poultry production in Ethiopia. Vernooij, A.G.; Giani A, et al (2012). *In: Poultry in Ethiopia: a survey of production, value chain and marketing of commercial poultry in Ethiopia The Hague: Netherlands-African Business Council*, - p. 12 - 19.
- Poultry in Ethiopia: a survey of production, value chain and marketing of commercial poultry in Ethiopia. Vernooij, A.G., Giani, A. et al. (2012). *The Hague: Netherlands-African Business Council*, - 62 p.
- Giani A. Novelty, retro-innovation and fantasy: Torri Superiore Ecovillage as a form of resistance to the abandonment of rural marginal areas in Italy. *MSc Thesis Rural Sociology for the Master in Organic Agriculture at Wageningen University (NL)*. Supervisors: Jan Douwe van der Ploeg (Rural Sociology): http://www.rso.wur.nl/NR/rdonlyres/27F2DB03-BBF3-4450-BA70-EF571A98C614/139502/MscThesis_AlbertoGiani.pdf
- Githiru M, Giani A et al: African wild dogs from south-eastern Kenya. *Canid News* 11.2, 2008. Available on:
- http://www.canids.org/canidnews/11/African_wild_dogs_from_south-eastern_Kenya.pdf
- Njoroge P Giani A et al: A survey of the large and medium sized mammals of Arawale national reserve, Kenya. *Journal of East African Natural History* 98(1): 119–128 (2009). Available on: <http://www.ajol.info/index.php/jeanh/article/view/46093>

● RECOMMENDATIONS

Fatouma Seid – FAO Representative in Ethiopia and my supervisor – Fatouma.Seid@fao.org – (+251) 911509532

Ms Fatouma Seid was the FAO Ethiopia Country Rep and my supervisor during my work with FAO in Ethiopia

Harinder Makkar – Colleague at FAO – makkar@uni-hohenheim.de – (+43) 6503860698

Adjunct Professor, University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

Harinder has worked with me with FAO Ethiopia and we worked together on innovative thinking about animal feed and pastoralist resilience in Ethiopia

Cristiano Rossignoli – Supervisor at Oxfam in Gaza Strip – C.Rossignoli@cgiar.org – (+60) 1114372326

M&E Leader World Fish Center, Penang, Malaysia

Massimo Castiello – Colleague and friend – massimo.castiello@beef-ug.org – (+256) 786031318

Chief Technical Advisor Sustainable Beef Meat Industry , Ministry of Agriculture, Uganda

Massimo Castiello is the colleague with whom I started my veterinary career 30 years ago and with whom I have continued to discuss development cooperation and projects in Africa until now. He is the colleague who knows my career best from the beginning to today

Johannes.B. Schiere – Consultant, colleague and friend – info@laventana.nl – (+31) 629562054

Johannes Schiere has been my lecturer in 2002, worked for me as a consultant in 2010 in Liberia and finally has been my colleague during the period I spent in the Netherlands at the University of Wageningen where we organized and delivered courses together. We are also very good friends