

BIO: SCOTT DRIMIE

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Scott Drimie leads a research and facilitation consultancy focused on food systems in southern Africa. Working with associates in the region, Scott consults for various public and private sector organisations. His consultancy has focused primarily on food policy and the facilitation of new institutional arrangements for food system governance. Complimenting this, Scott's academic work pivots on his role as Associate Professor (Extraordinary) in the Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences and a Senior Lecturer (Extraordinary) at the Sustainability Institute, School of Public Leadership, both at Stellenbosch University. This work includes the development and teaching of Masters-level modules, PhD and Masters supervision and examination, and participation in Faculty related processes. He is co-convening the development of a research programme on food systems at the newly constituted Centre for Complex Systems in Transition.

Scott has directed the Southern African Food Lab (www.SouthernAfricafoodlab.org) since October 2013. This is a multi-stakeholder initiative that brings together stakeholders in the regional food system to identify and pilot innovative means to achieve long-term, sustainable food security. This is done through the use of collaborative learning and facilitation approaches. The Food Lab is housed at Agri-Sciences at Stellenbosch.

Scott was a Research Fellow with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) between 2007 and 2011. His major responsibility was the coordination of the Regional Network on AIDS, Livelihoods and Food Security - RENEWAL (www.ifpri.org/renewal) - which facilitated research on the interactions between HIV and food/ nutrition security and the implications for policy and practice in southern and eastern Africa. Before IFPRI, Scott was a Senior Research Specialist in the Integrated Rural and Regional Development Programme at the Human Sciences Research Council in South Africa.

In 2000 he completed his PhD at Cambridge University, which focused on the implementation of the South African land policy in the period 1994–1999. He spent a short period at the Department of Rural Development Studies at Uppsala University, Sweden before returning to South Africa. Since then, his research has focused on food systems and food security and the role of multiple stressors affecting the well being of vulnerable groups.

Scott is currently supervising four PhD students and several Masters students at Stellenbosch where he co-leads a postgraduate research programme called "Social Learning for Sustainable Food Systems" funded by the National Research Foundation. He has contributed to developing a Master's level module on Nutrition, Human Rights and Governance and another on Global Agriculture and Food Security. He lectures and examines post-graduate students at various institutions on an on-going, visiting basis. Scott's academic associations include Visiting Research Associate at the African Centre for Migration and Society (2009 – 2014), Research Associate at the Faculty of Economics and Management Science at the University of Free State (2013 – 2015), Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the School of Geography, Archaeology and Environment at the University of Witwatersrand (2006 – 2010), and Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal at the Africa Centre for Food Security in Pietermaritzburg (2008 – 2010).