

Executive Summary

The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction is an international development and training organization with over 80 years of grassroots experience working in people-centered, sustainable development in Africa, Asia and Latin America. They have a committed team of nearly 70 staff and a global Board of Trustees currently supporting programs in bio-intensive subsistence gardening, pastoralist education in Kenya and Ethiopia, community managed disaster risk reduction to help communities recognize and cope with hazards, value chain training and wealth creation for African farmers, women's empowerment through public discourse, and farmer field schools in post-conflict Uganda. Additionally, IIRR runs a training program based on their people-centered methods for other leading humanitarian and international development organizations.

As an intern, I was responsible for researching, writing, and tracking grant proposals, attending meetings with potential funders, working with their communications staff to execute on innovative donor campaigns, and assisting in designing and managing donor events. In addition, I was responsible for researching, writing, editing, and placing articles in journals, newsletters, and on their own website and social media platforms. The goal was to attract new followers, increase the IIRR's exposure to and from other development organizations, and to build awareness of the organization's activities around the world among current and new supporters. Essentially, my task as an intern was to create a network that was self-sustaining in order to promote a cause. Of course, I did the occasional general administrative support including, but not limited to: document drafting, database maintenance, news monitoring, filing, photocopying and other tasks as needed.