

Nitzy Cohen

Personal

Nitzy was born in Jerusalem, Israel, and immigrated to the USA after her Israeli army service 29 years ago, proudly becoming a US citizen in 1990

Nitzy is a mother of three children; Erik (23) Maya (20) and Mikey (18)

Education

University of Louisville	Louisville, Kentucky	1989-1993
BA, Economics	Graduated 4.0	Suma cum Laude

University of Wisconsin	Madison, Wisconsin	1994-1995
MA, Development Policy and Public Administration		

Professional

Nitzy is a seasoned professional with extensive experience designing and implementing enterprise development programs across the world.

- Over the past 17 years have been intricately involved in nearly 20 significant economic growth programs in South America, Africa, and Eastern Europe.
 - South America
 - Developed and brought to market customized baking ingredients to address the issue of lack of refrigeration.
 - Africa, Ghana, Kumasi
 - Within a cocoa processing plant, Nitzy developed the concept of instituting the only Ghanaian, privately owned cocoa plant and engineered the processing plant's facility using 100% US made machinery. She also designed the building and utilities facility (introducing self energy production), designed inventory and quality controls systems and negotiated signed contracts with US commodity traders to commit to buying the entire production line for 15 years.
 - Haiti
 - Assisted small food manufacturers with packaging, labeling and marketing as part of a USAID project.
 - Europe, Turkey
 - Nitzy developed and implemented a new concept of private labeling for a low cost supermarket chain, using inputs from the US, and Eastern Europe. She developed a logistical plan for efficient distribution and to obtain maximum profitability.
- As you can see, Nitzy has broad experience helping foreign entities (private and governmental) develop agribusiness, food processing and value-added products:
 - Ghana
 - Cocoa processing. Developed farmers' cooperatives and implemented efficient growing cycle, and collection of cocoa beans, to maximize profitability for farmers and constant and reliable source of supply for the manufacturer.
 - Tema, port city. Set up a distribution center for (mackerel) fish, and imported poultry.
 - Reviewed logistical and marketing strategies, and recommended and implemented more efficient ways to achieve broader distribution, and minimizing spoilage of product in the country's hot weather.

- Romania
 - Fish preserving. Technology transfer and skills training to help the fishing industry modernize after the fall of the central economy.
 - Vegetable canning and freezing. Planning of planting, harvesting and preservation of produce
 - During this time, operated food exporting business that included sourcing, private labeling, custom packing of canned food, meats (poultry, beef and pork) and consolidation of purchases for efficient acquisition and supply.
 - Have experience with multi lateral programs, procedures and methods. Have overseen documentation as necessary for trade, credit and compliance.
 - Development Funds - interacted with various regional development funds to finance industrialization of third world counties, where lending and western financial practices are not customary.
 - World Bank - Interacted with the World Bank for financial assistance with West African agribusiness investments.
- FDA – Interacted with the agency in order to adhere to the agency specifications. While erecting food processing plants and drawing short and long term marketing plans, US specifications were the key to opening the largest market in the world to Third World manufacturers.

Commissions

Connecticut-Israel Exchange Commission
Advisory Board for Technical High Schools

Trade Associations

State of Connecticut, Africa Business Council - An advisory board for the development and growth of trade with the African continent.

Political Affiliations

Republican Jewish Coalition, leadership
Republican Women of Westport
League of Women Voters, Westport
America-Israel Friendship League
Westport Republican Town Committee