

## MEET RUFORUM GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP (GTA) BENEFICIARIES

Since the official launch of Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) in 2014, RUFORUM has facilitated the PhD placement of over **47** Academic staff from different countries in Africa. RUFORUM, in collaboration with its member universities are contributing to the wider objectives of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century for Higher Education in Africa; thus, increases in access and quality of post graduate programmes. To this end, the Vice Chancellors of RUFORUM member Universities agreed to support each other in building staff capacities through an initiative called Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA). GTA, is an African home grown academic mobility initiative that aims at escalating the proportion of academic staff to conduct quality research and training at African universities. It involves staff members from one region to train in other RUFORUM member Universities at a cost sharing arrangement. Further details about GTA can be found (<http://ruforum.org/scholarships>)

Presented below are some of the Academic staff from member universities who have been successfully enrolled under the RUFORUM GTA.



**Mr. Bwihangane Birindwa Ahadi (Democratic Republic of Congo) - PhD Fellow,** *Department of Veterinary Pathology, Microbiology and parasitology, School of Veterinary Medicine, Collage of Agriculture and Veterinary sciences, University of Nairobi, Kenya.* Mr. Ahadi was born on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1986. He is currently in his last year of study for a PhD in Molecular virology programme at the University of Nairobi Supported by the Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) programme through RUFORUM, the **University of Nairobi** and **Université Evangélique en Afrique**. His topic of research is on Sero-epidemiology, risk factors and assessment of genetic nature of Peste des petits ruminants virus (PPRV) in different goat's genotypes and sheep population in Democratic Republic of Congo. He is currently studying the molecular biological characteristics of emerging and re-emerging viruses of public health and food security importance focusing on the development of new generation and tailored biological and/or vaccines against viral diseases. He has been working with Université Evangélique en Afrique as a lecturer in charge of teaching and conduct research for the past six years in the field of agriculture and livestock. He is also acting as an agronomist-specialist at the ministry of Agriculture, livestock and fisheries in DRC.

**Mr. Aloys Fashaho (Rwanda) - PhD Student,** *Department of Crops, Horticulture and Soils, Faculty of Agriculture, Egerton University.* Mr. Aloys Fashaho is Rwandese, born on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1969. He has been working for the University of Rwanda as the Academic Secretary of Agroforestry and Head of Crop Sciences



Department for the last ten years. He is member of the Soil Health Consortium of Rwanda. He is currently in first year of PhD in Soil Science at Egerton University under the RUFORUM Programme of Graduate Teaching Assistantship. His research topic is "Characterization of soil properties of terraced lands and their response to bio-slurry, nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers under maize (*Zea mays* L.) Cultivation in Rwanda". Aloys is passionate in researching permanent solutions towards ensuring food security at household level. He defended the research proposal both at Department and Faculty levels and he started field work.



**Mr. Elijah Heka Kamau (Kenya)** - PhD Fellow, Department of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT). Elijah is a Kenyan born on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1987. He worked with Moi University as a research assistant for 3 years before joining University of Eldoret as a Graduate Assistant. He is currently in his second year of study for a PhD in Food Science and Nutrition at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York through the RUFORUM Graduate Trainee Assistantship (GTA) program. His research topic is on the nutrient composition, anti-microbial

activity and phytochemical content of African nightshade (*Solanum nigrum complex*) edible berries. His work will lead to incorporation of the African nightshade berries, a neglected part of the crop, into the household diet. Currently, he is conducting his field work. Elijah has attended several academic workshops, seminars and conferences, with the most recent being the 5<sup>th</sup> African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference held in Cape Town, South Africa for food and nutrition security.



**Mr. Bintu Ndusha (Democratic Republic of Congo)** - PhD Fellow, Department of Land Resource Management and Agricultural Technology (LARMAT), Faculty of Agriculture, College of Agriculture and Veterinary sciences, University of Nairobi (UoN). Bintu is a Congolese citizen, born on 27th July 1986. Bintu has six years of experience working as an Assistant lecturer at the Université Evangélique en Afrique. She is currently in her second year of PhD at UoN in Sustainable Soil Resource Management (2015-2018). Her research study is on “Maximizing Soybean BNF and production in South Kivu (Eastern D.R.Congo). Her work is supported by Carnegie Corporation of New York under GTA (graduate Teaching Assistantship) program of RUFORUM.

She has defended her proposal and currently she is doing field and lab works. She has been working together with her institution and IITA (International Institute of Tropical Agriculture) for collection, characterization and testing of indigenous rhizobia strains to identify local strains that are suitable for inoculants production for farmers in her region.



**Mr. Joseph Kere Odera (Kenya)** – PhD Fellow Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Sciences and a lectures at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology Nairobi, Kenya. He was born in Kisumu County, Kenya 45 years ago. Joseph recently joined Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malawi as a Graduate Teaching Assistant in PhD in Animal Sciences in the Department of Animal Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture funded by Carnegie through RUFORUM. His proposed research title is, “Prevalence and Molecular Characterization of *Echinococcus granulosus* in slaughtered livestock (cattle, sheep, goats) and dogs in Migori County, Kenya”. He is a Senior Technologist at the department of Animal Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. He holds

an MSc degree in Animal Parasitology with a vast experience in the fields of Animal health, breeding, production and disease management, Pasture/Fodder establishment, management and conservation. He has also presented papers in 2 international conferences in Urumqi, China and Khartoum, Sudan: The 24th and 25th World congress of Hydatillogy/ Cystic Echinococcosis.



**Mr. Charles Mparara Kasanziki (Rwanda)** - *PhD student at Makerere University, Agriculture and Rural Innovation from September 2015.* He has a Master's in Water Resources and Environmental Management from University of Rwanda and a Bachelor Degree in Chemistry from ISP Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo. Charles KASANZIKI is a lecturer in study leave from University of Rwanda but before being appointed lecturer in 2010, he was acting as National Assistant Coordinator for Rwanda of Nile Basin Initiative, Applied Training Project from 2008 to 2010. He has also worked at Provincial level as Director of Education, Youth and Culture in Butare Province, in Rwanda from 2001 to 2003 then Head of Department of Quality at University of Rwanda from 2003 to 2005. KASANZIKI PhD research proposal is: « Impact of Hilltop

Land use/Land Cover Management Community Practices on Downstream Surface Water in Migina Catchment, Rwanda.



**Mr. Titus Kiplimo Kosgei (Kenya)** - *PhD fellow, Department of Agricultural production, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Makerere University.* He is a Kenyan, born on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1984. He works as a Tutorial fellow at the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Moi University, and also a PhD Fellow pursuing Plant breeding and Biotechnology at Makerere University, facilitated by the RUFORUM GTA program. He has been trained on scientific data management, occupation safety and health at the work place. Titus participated in the RUFORUM 5th African higher education week and RUFORUM biennial conference at Cape Town South Africa whose focus was on enhancing impact of research and Universities research capacities and the mentoring orientation workshop at Moi University, Eldoret, organized by AWARD. His research is focused on assessing the utility of elite Drought and

Nitrogen Tolerant germplasm in development of Dual Purpose Maize Varieties for small holder farmers in Kenya. This research is expected to yield information necessary for improvement of maize breeding activities targeting development of dual purpose maize in the region.



**Mr. Bob Israel Jere (Malawi)** Is a lecturer at Mzuzu University in the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Aquaculture and Fisheries at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) under the RUFORUM GTA Scholarship. His study is entitled An Analysis of Lead Farmer Concept in Aquaculture: A Case of Innovative Aquaculture Farmers in Mchinji, Zomba and Mzimba Districts of Malawi. He also attended the RUFORUM 5th African higher education week and RUFORUM biennial conference at Cape Town South Africa whose focus was on enhancing impact of research and Universities research capacities. He has been a manager in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Malawi as an Extension Officer. He has an International Master of Science in Aquaculture from National Taiwan Ocean University and a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from University of Malawi. Before joining Mzuzu University, he worked at the Health Commission Board whose aim is to provide Policy guidance to the commission that oversees the

running of Mission Hospitals and Projects touching people's lives within the Catholic Diocese of Mzuzu.





**Mrs. Pamela Nahamya Kabod (Uganda)** *PhD Fellow, Department of Agricultural Production and Environmental Sciences, School of Agricultural Sciences, Makerere University*, Mrs. Kabod hails from Uganda, and has a first degree in agriculture specializing in crop science and a Master of Science degree in Agriculture (Biotechnology) both from Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. Mrs Kabod is a Lecturer at Uganda Christian University, Mukono, Uganda and a PhD student in Plant Breeding and Biotechnology at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda under RUFORUM- GTAprogram. In her doctoral studies, Mrs Kabod is focusing on characterizing postharvest physiological deterioration in *Solanum aethiopicum* Shum that will feed into breeding strategies of African indigenous vegetables as well as their increase utilization options for improved nutrition and income among

smallholder farmers. She has also received various trainings in plant health management as a plant doctor, scientific data management, business development and entrepreneurship and adult training methodologies. She also attended the RUFORUM 5<sup>th</sup> biennial conference and the African higher education week at Cape Town South Africa whose focus was on enhancing impact of research and universities research capacities. She is passionate about plants especially fruits and vegetables and enjoys travelling.



**Mr Elias Rabson Chirwa (Malawi)** - *Is a PhD Fellow, Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries Sciences, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), Lilongwe, Malawi*. Born a Malawian, Mr. Chirwa is a lecturer at Mzuzu University and his PhD research project is titled “Comparative ecological impacts of common carp (*Cyprinus carpio* Linnaeus, 1758) and the African sharp-tooth catfish (*Clarias gariepinus* Burchell, 1822): policy implications for aquaculture development in Malawi” with financial support from Cooperation of New York through RUFORUM. He obtained his MSc. Degree in Aquaculture and Fisheries from Ghent University, Belgium, with a distinction grade. He later briefly worked as a senior fisheries officer in Malawi’s northern fisheries division before taking up a lectureship position at Mzuzu University in 2006 where he still works to date. Mr. Chirwa’s community outreach efforts have been devoted to improving Malawi’s

rural livelihoods through education and training in sustainable use of aquatic resources. In this regard he has trained over 200 fish farmers and fishers in northern Malawi under various projects, and established the first farmer field school for fish farmers in Mutendere Area Development Programme (Mzimba district).



**Mr. Espoir Bagula (Democratic Republic of Congo)** He is PhD student in Soil science and Watershed management at Makerere University under GTA and RUFORUM sponsorship. He is a young agricultural and environmental scientist. He is Congolese born in Bukavu in 1987. He is conducting a research in Soil science and watershed management. His area of research is Soil and water resource conservation, Applied Geoinformatic, Precision agriculture and climate change. He is a lecturer and expert in data analysis and applied geoinformation offering training service in GIS and remote sensing through the Applied Geoinformation Unit of Université Evangélique en Afrique (UEA). He cumulated experience by offering consultancy services to many organizations in

several research areas. The most was in hydrological analysis system of Great Transboundary collaboration, Water resource management in Ruzizi catchment in DR Congo. He received a grant to implement rainwater-harvesting techniques in Ruzizi plain and led to the publication of two scientific papers. He participated in more than 10 international conferences across Africa and published 12 papers as author and co-author in international journals.



**Mr. Mwije Anthony (Uganda)** - *GTA Fellow / Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Horticultural Science, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.* He is a Ugandan agriculturalist and teacher by profession and training. Currently, Mr Mwije is in his third year of a Ph.D. programme in Horticultural Science at Stellenbosch University. His Ph.D. research focuses on applied plant physiology techniques to enhance production of quality apple (*Malus domestica*, Borkh) fruits in an increasingly warming up environment by using mineral nutrition regimes at post full bloom in apple trees. Particularly this Ph.D. study is about understanding the role of boron and calcium minerals on the biochemistry, metabolite accumulation and subsequent resistance of the apple fruit peels to sunburn damage. RUFORUM members, Makerere and Stellenbosch Universities and the Carnegie Corporation of New York, are supporting this Ph.D. training. Previously, Mr. Mwije worked as research assistant at the Makerere Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory, where he investigated the frequency and impact of somaclonal variations on banana farms established from tissue culture plantlets. Later on, he worked with sweetpotato BIOEARN project at the same laboratory where he did his MSc. research on sweetpotato breeding particularly the heritability of drought traits in selected Ugandan sweetpotato cultivars.



**Murongo Marius Flarian (Bro.) (Uganda)** is a self-motivated teacher and academic. He is an education officer, and lecturer at Uganda Martyrs University. He is Teaching and undertaking a PhD in Dryland resource management at the University of Nairobi (Kenya), Under the GTA arrangement between Uganda Martyrs University, RUFORUM, and the University of Nairobi. His current PhD research "*Developing strategies to improve adoption and productivity of Tissue culture Banana of smallholder farm orchards*" will help small holder farmers to use simple but working technologies for sustainable production of banana orchards, most especially using resources that are within their means as small scale producers. Marius has travelled to different countries to attend, social, religious, economic and academic conferences and workshops especially in Italy, France, and Kenya. The most recent international conference he has attended is the RUFORUM 5th African higher education week and RUFORUM biennial conference held in Cape Town South Africa. Through these exposers has a rich experience in monitoring and evaluation, systems wide ecology approach, social media management, and education of the youths. Marius has passion to work with small holder farmers, who produce organic products. He has participated in several concluded and current projects to that effect including the "ecological organic agriculture initiative" championed by the African Union.



**Mr. Jean Jacques Bagalwa Mashimango (Democratic Republic of Congo)** - *PhD Fellow, School of forestry, Environmental and geographical Sciences, Collage of Agriculture and Environmental sciences, Makerere University.* He is a Congolese trained on the water sampling and analysis at the Great Lakes WATER Institute in Wisconsin, USA. He did his first Msc degree at the "Université Evangélique en Afrique (UEA)" in Bukavu, D.R. Congo and a second at Makerere University in Integrated Watershed Management. He is an assistant researcher at the "Centre de Recherche en Sciences Naturelles de Lwiro", D.R. Congo and assistant lecturer at UEA/Bukavu. He is currently pursuing a PhD at Makerere University funded by the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). He also attended the RUFORUM 5<sup>th</sup> African higher education week and RUFORUM biennial conference at Cape Town South Africa whose focus was on enhancing impact of research and Universities research capacities. This funding is provided through the RUFORUM Doctoral Regional Research Grant (GRG). Bagalwa's research focuses on "Contribution of atmospheric deposition to nutrients in Lake Kivu, DR Congo side".



**Mr. Jean Marie Vianney Senyanzobe (Rwanda)** - *PhD Fellow, Department of Biological Sciences, School of Sciences, University of Eldoret, Kenya* He is an academic staff at University of Rwanda, born on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 1964. He is now pursuing a PhD Program in Plant Ecology at University of Eldoret, Kenya since November, 2015. He is going to undertake a research in Environmental and Social impacts of bracken fern, invasive species grown in Nyungwe Forest, Rwanda. Mr. Senyanzobe has the first degree in Biology from the National University of Rwanda. He also has a Master of Science degree in Applied Biology (Plant Biology) from University of Lomé, Togo. Before being Lecturer in High Learning Institution in 2006, he was a Researcher in Research Institute of Scientific Technology (IRST) in Rwanda from 1999 to 2005 especially in Medicinal Plant Department. Mr.

Senyanzobe was a head of department of Forestry and Nature Conservation at University of Rwanda since 2007 to 2015. Under the support of RUFORUM,



**Mr. Michael Mzirekelenge Nkosi (Malawi)** - *PhD RUFORUM GTA Fellow, Animal Science Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources*. Michael is currently in the second year of his PhD in Animal Science Programme at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources-Bunda Campus Supported by the Carnegie through RUFORUM GTA Programme. His topic of research is “An Assessment of Aflatoxins Contamination in the Smallholder Dairy Value Chain in Malawi”. He has successfully finished the social aspect of his research topic for his PhD research and is presently collecting feeds and milk and milk products samples and analyzing for aflatoxins at the Chitedze Research Station Mycotoxins Laboratory. Michael attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial

Conference in Cape Town in 2016. He works as a Lecturer in Biology (Zoology) at the Mzuzu University, teaching undergraduate students various Biological Sciences that pertain to field of Zoology.



**Mr. Azanga Ekaka Oscar (Democratic Republic of Congo)** is a researcher and graduate teaching assistant from “Université Evangélique en Afrique”, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Currently he is a PhD student at Makerere University; his research is oriented towards the combined effects of climate and land use/land cover change on the River Ruzizi basin water balance. His research interests include watershed hydrology, climate change and modelling. He received a training in physical instrumentation on the LASER CO<sub>2</sub> at the “Université Catholique de Louvain” in Belgium and was interested in the training of physics teachers in the secondary schools of Bukavu. In 2012, he received an award of excellence as the best trainer of physics teachers, given by Alfajiri High School, a Jesuit institution of great pedagogical renown in DRC. He also

attended in Cape Town, South Africa, the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference, which focused on enhancing the impact of research and universities research capacities.





**Mr. Nathan Kanuma Taremwa (Rwanda)** *PhD Scholar Department of Agribusiness Management & Trade, School of agriculture and Enterprise.* He is a Rwandese by Nationality and PhD Scholar at Kenyatta University, Kenya under the GTA programme. Nathan has been working as a Lecturer and researcher at the University of Rwanda for over 10 years He holds two Masters Degrees from different disciplines. Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Development from Ghent University, Belgium, and the second Master of Science Degree in Leadership Development in ICT and Knowledge Society from the University of Mauritius (UoM), Republic of

Mauritius. He has been awarded several professional certificates including the “Prestigious CV Raman International Program for African Researchers” and the recent one on “Science and Leadership for Transforming Institutions”- by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), International Foundation of Sciences (IFS) and the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM in collaboration with the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania He has published **14** peer reviewed journal articles and has co-authored one book chapter on *ICTs for Agricultural Extension: Global Experiments, Innovations and Experiences*. He has presented papers in various regional and international workshops and conferences. His research interests focus on: Rural Livelihood Security, Agribusiness Management, ICT4Ag, Cooperatives Management, Community Conservation and Indigenous Knowledge Management (IKM).



**Mr. Murasa Alphonse (Rwanda)** - *Department of Extension and Innovation Studies, School of Agricultural Sciences Makerere University,*

His first degree was in economics from the National University of Rwanda. Immediately after graduating, he became the chief of logistics in World Vision International- Rwanda Program. He worked there for four years until he joined Makerere University under the Collaborative Masters of Agricultural and Applied economics (CMAAE) where he obtained a Master of Science Degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics. He joined the University of Rwanda as a lecturer and a coordinator of Agricultural economics and rural development programs in the university immediately after completing. It was in late 2015 when he enrolled for a doctoral program in Agricultural and Rural Innovation in Makerere University. He is currently a director in the Ministry of natural Resources in Rwanda

overseeing implementation of government programs. As said above, together with his current job.



**Mr. Joyful Tatenda Rugare (Zimbabwe)**, born on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1980. He holds a BSc. Hons in Agriculture (Crop Science) and MSc. Crop Protection awarded by the University of Zimbabwe. His Masters research was sponsored by CIMMYT. Joyful started his career in Agriculture as a Section Manager at Agricultural and Rural Development Authority (ARDA), a position which he held for three and half years. He worked as a Weed Science Lecturer at Africa University (Part time), Midlands State University before he joined the University of Zimbabwe where he is currently employed as a Weed Scientist. He served as a board member of the University of Zimbabwe Farm and the Reformed Church Board of Business Units which oversees the Agribusiness activities of the church. Joyful has also been involved extensively in promoting the adoption of the herbicide technology and Conservation Agriculture in the Gokwe South District area of Zimbabwe in partnership with an

International Non-Governmental Organization, WeltHungerHilfe (WHH), through facilitating farmer training workshops since 2010. He is a member of the South African Weed Science Society (SWSS); and is currently in his second year of study for a PhD in Agronomy at Stellenbosch University which is supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York through RUFORUM's Graduate Teaching Assistantship programme (GTA). His research is on the utilization of allelopathic green manure cover crops in controlling two important arable weeds (*Eleusine indica* and *Richardia scabra*) of Zimbabwe.



**Mr. Moses Witness Kamiyango, (Malawi)**, is a PhD Fellow in the Department of Food Science and Technology, at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT). He is currently in the first semester of coursework towards a PhD in Food Science and Nutrition, and is expected to develop a research proposal during the second semester of the programme.

Born a Malawian, He obtained his first degree in Education (BEd.) majoring in chemistry, from the University of Malawi, Chancellor College, in 2005. Thereafter, he taught chemistry for a year at secondary school level, before returning to Chancellor College for postgraduate studies. He pursued his studies towards a master's Degree in Applied Chemistry under scholarship from Uppsala University's International Programme in Chemical Sciences (IPICS), and obtained his MSc. Degree in Applied Chemistry in the year 2010, with a distinction grade. He later joined the University of Malawi, College of Medicine as a lecturer in chemistry in the same year, 2010, and he worked

there for four years. It was during his employment at this college, that he got involved in clinical nutrition studies which drew his interest into the discipline of food science and nutrition. He currently lectures in chemistry at the Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST), which is the fourth and new university in Malawi. Upon completion of his studies, he will become part of a core team that will oversee establishment of both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in food science at MUST.



**Mr. Joseph Yohane Issa (Malawi)** is a young result and impact oriented researcher from, Blantyre, Malawi. He is currently pursuing his PhD studies in Food Science and Nutrition at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) in Nairobi, Kenya under RUFORUM Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) programme. He has so far finished his first semester at JKUAT. His research interest is in product development and value addition of traditional fruits and vegetables with a focus on nutritional enhancement and nutrients bioaccessibility. He is now working on his PhD research proposal and is expected to finalise in the second semester which begins in September, 2017. Joseph graduated from University of Malawi in 2006 with a Bachelor of education (Science) degree specialising in Chemistry and Biology. After graduation, he worked as a secondary school teacher at the Ministry of Education in Malawi for half a year. Thereafter, he joined Malawi

Industrial research and Technology development Centre as a Research officer (MIRTDC) in February, 2007. While at MIRTDC, Joseph received a Scholarship through the USAID Initiative for long-term capacity building (UILTCB) in agriculture in 2009. Under this scholarship, Joseph studied Master of Science in Food Science and Nutrition at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in USA. He graduated in summer, 2012. He is currently employed by the Malawi University of Science and technology as a Research Fellow and his work involves research and development as well as outreach work in areas of food and nutrition. He has been involved in product development and value addition of agricultural produce with small and medium entrepreneurs (SMEs) in Malawi.



**Ms. Del'sile Daisy Masika Dlamini (Swaziland)**

Is a PhD Student, Institute For Rural Development in the University of Venda, Thohoyandou, South Africa. Her Research is on Comparative Analysis of Smallholder Export Cropping Promotion: A case of Public and Private Baby Vegetable Production in Swaziland with financial support from a capacity building competitive grant "Training the next generation of scientists" provided by Carnegie Cooperation of New York through the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM).



Born a Swazi, Dlamini obtained first a Diploma in Agriculture and proceeded to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics and Management from the University of Swaziland. Thereafter she worked as an Assistant Agricultural Economics in the private multi-enterprise agricultural firm, Dalcrue Agricultural Holdings for five years. While at it, Ms. Dlamini re-enrolled and obtained a Master of Science degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics majoring in Agricultural and Rural Development in 2008. In March 2008, she moved to join the Swaziland Environment Authority as an Environmental Officer-Economics. She works briefly there on incorporating socio-economic aspects of the Environmental Impact Assessment process as well as on the SADC projects on Water Accounting and also the African Monitoring of the Environmental for Sustainable Development [AMESD-PUMA. She later joined the University of Swaziland as a Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Management in November 2010 to date. Her research is expected to contribute to the current debate on public promotion of smallholder inclusion into high value horticulture exports which are highly perishable, have high quality standards and demand high technical expertise yet have a very limited local markets. It relates to this contributing as a sustainable rural livelihood strategy.