

## **Borlaug LEAP- Past Fellows Directory (Winter 2006)**

### **Maction Komwa**

**Country:**  
Malawi

**University:**  
George Mason University

**Department & Degree:**  
Environmental Science and Policy, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**  
George Mason University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**  
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

**Research:**  
Effects of HIV/AIDS on household agricultural productivity in southeastern Uganda.

**Email:**  
[mkomwa@gmu.edu](mailto:mkomwa@gmu.edu)



Dr. Maction Komwa is a Research Faculty and Adjunct Professor in the Departments of Global and Community Health | Geography and GeoInformation Science. He is experienced across many areas including infectious disease epidemiology in HIV/AIDS, international health policy & strategies, geospatial trends of food security, geospatial mapping for resource conservation and environment. As a Norman Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) Fellow, he conducted qualitative and quantitative field-work in the rural southeastern Uganda in summer of 2006 and 2007, investigating the impacts of HIV/AIDS on household nutrition and agricultural production.

In his research work, he has collaborated with researchers from various institutions such as the University of Hohenheim Stuttgart in Germany, the International Food Policy Research Institute in DC, Government of Uganda, and George Mason University. Dr. Komwa has also worked as a consultant with the International Food Policy Research Institute and the World Bank on work related to geospatial data analysis especially on household food nutritional security policy, land management technologies, market accessibility, and poverty mapping. Dr. Komwa is currently collaborating with George Mason University - Center for Social Complexity on developing multi-agent simulation models on HIV/AIDS in disaster and refugee areas of East Africa region.

Dr. Komwa received a Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Policy from George Mason University and a M.A. in Geographic Information Sciences for Development and Environment from Clark University. His research is in Multi-agent simulation models on HIV/AIDS.

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## **Nikki Kohly**

**Country:**  
South Africa

**University:**  
Rhodes University, South Africa

**Department & Degree:**  
Environmental Education and Sustainability, M.Ed

**US Mentor institution:**  
Cornell University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**  
World Agroforestry Centre

**Research:**  
Role of School-Community Relationship as an Enabling Factor in Environmental Learning

**Email:**  
[n.kohly@ru.ac.za](mailto:n.kohly@ru.ac.za)

Nikki Kohly was one of the first Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) Fellows. During her fellowship, while she pursued a Masters in Education, Ms. Kohly integrated community-based agricultural research and development work by the World Agroforestry Centre and other CGIAR centers with the environmental education work being conducted at Rhodes and Cornell Universities. The objectives of her research were to 1) to explore the role of agriculturally based school-community links in facilitating environmental learning and action in southern Africa and the US, and 2) to develop guidelines to support agriculturally-based environmental learning that promotes social change and sustainability.

Dr. Marianne Krasny at Cornell University and Dr. Festus Akinnifesi at the World Agroforestry Centre, SADC-ICRAF in Malawi mentored Ms. Kohly. During her fellowship, she also spent a semester at Cornell University and visited the World Agroforestry Centre. Ms. Kohly conducted fieldwork in New York City, Malawi and Zambia.



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## **Pauline Nhamo Chivenge**

**Country:**  
Zimbabwe

**University:**  
University of Zimbabwe

**Department & Degree:**  
Soil Fertility, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**  
University of California, Davis

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**  
International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)



**Research:**

Analysis of the Regulation of Organic and Mineral Sources Nutrient Cycling in Soil

**Email:**

[p.chivenge@cgiar.org](mailto:p.chivenge@cgiar.org)

Zimbabwean national Dr. Pauline Nhamo Chivenge was one of the first students to be awarded a Borlaug LEAP fellowship in Winter 2006. She was enrolled in the PhD program at University of California, Davis in the Department of Plant Sciences. Dr. Chivenge was researching the combination of organic and mineral nutrient resource results in improved synchrony and carbon sequestration by affecting carbon and nitrogen stabilization through aggregate formation, followed by carbon and nitrogen release during aggregate breakdown. The objectives of her research were to determine 1) how organic resource (OR) plus mineral resource combinations alter aggregate turnover and mineralization-immobilization patterns of nitrogen; 2) the influence of the quality of the OR on these processes; and 3) the role of soil texture, mineralogy and climate on these processes.

Dr. Johan Six, a professor at the University of California, Davis, and Dr. Bernard Vanlauwe at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) mentored Dr. Chivenge. During her fellowship she conducted her fieldwork in Kenya under the supervision of her CIAT mentor.

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## **Borlaug LEAP- Past Fellows Directory (Spring 2006)**

### **Abdoul Murekezi**

**Country:**

Rwanda

**University:**

Michigan State University

**Department & Degree:**

Agricultural Economics, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Michigan State University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

**Research:**

Impact of cooperative based & private enterprise based business models of technical assistance on income growth & other poverty alleviation indicators for smallholder coffee growers in Rwanda

**Email:**

[murekezi@msu.edu](mailto:murekezi@msu.edu)



Dr. Abdoul Karim Murekezi, who hails from Rwanda, was enrolled in the PhD program at Michigan State University in the Department of Agricultural Economics when he was selected for the Borlaug LEAP Fellowship in Spring 2006. Dr. Murekezi's research evaluated the impact of two business models of technical assistance (one cooperative based and the other private enterprise based) on income growth and other poverty alleviating indicators for smallholder coffee growers in Rwanda. The objectives of his research were to analyze the trends of coffee sector of Rwanda with respect to market liberalization reforms and assess the impact of two business models of technical assistance on income growth and other poverty outcomes for coffee growers. In addition, he examined the issue of member commitment when cooperatives and investor owned firms are competing in the procurement of raw coffee.

Dr. Scott Loveridge at Michigan State University and Dr. Nicholas Minot at the International Food Policy Research Center (IFPRI) both served as mentors for Dr. Murekezi during his fellowship period. He spent time at Michigan State University, in Rwanda, at the IFPRI offices in Washington, DC, and in Ethiopia under the supervision of his IFPRI mentor, conducting research for his thesis.

Dr. Murekezi completed his PhD in 2009 and currently works as a consultant for HarvestPlus, an IFPRI organization.

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## **Annette Kuteesa**

**Country:**

Uganda

**University:**

Texas A&M University, AgriLife Research and Extension Center

**Department & Degree:**

Agricultural Economics, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Texas A&M University, AgriLife Research and Extension Center

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)

**Research:**

Determining the Demand for a Particular Fortified Maize Variety and Nutrient Intake by Rural Households in Uganda

**Email:**

[akutees@eprc.or.ug](mailto:akutees@eprc.or.ug)

Dr. Annette Kuteesa was awarded a Borlaug LEAP fellowship in Spring 2006. She was enrolled in the PhD program at Texas A&M University in the department of Agricultural Economics. Her research helped determine the demand for a particular fortified maize variety (quality protein maize (QPM)) and nutrient intake by rural households in Uganda. Specifically she studied 1) how this variety competes with major foods in the consumer diet; and 2) how a change in diet as caused by the social and economic factors influencing household food demand, affects the nutritional status of families. Dr. Rodolfo Nayga at Texas A&M University and Dr. Hugo DeGroot at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) mentored Dr. Kuteesa. She conducted her fieldwork in Uganda under the supervision of her CIMMYT mentor.



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## **Fantu Bachewe**

**Country:**

Ethiopia

**University:**

University of Minnesota

**Department & Degree:**

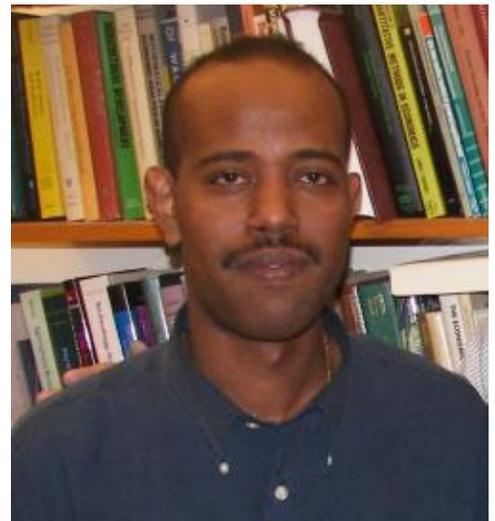
Growth & Development, Production, Finance & Managerial Economics and Econometrics, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

University of Minnesota

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)



**Research:**

Problems Faced by Agrarian Economies Mitigated by Socioeconomic Policies that Favor Peasant Agriculture

**Email:**

[f.bachewe@cgiar.org](mailto:f.bachewe@cgiar.org)

{No Bio}

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**Jeanne Coulibaly**

**Country:**

Ivory Coast

**University:**

Purdue University

**Department & Degree:**

Agricultural Economics, MS

**US Mentor institution:**

Purdue University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

**Research:**

Welfare Effects of Freer Trade in Dairy on the Ivorian Economy and Further Development of the Ivorian Dairy Sector

**Websites:**

ResearchGate Link: Jeanne Coulibaly Publications  
(<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jeanne-Coulibaly>)

{No Bio}

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**Lenis Saweda Liverpool-Tasie**

**Country:**

Sierra Leone

**University:**

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

**Department & Degree:**

International Development and Study, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign



**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

**Research:**

Exploring the Nature of Poverty in Ethiopia and Nigeria to Understand How Risk Management Strategies Differ Amongst Poor Households

**Email:**

[lliverp@msu.edu](mailto:lliverp@msu.edu)

Dr. Lenis Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, a native of Sierra Leone, was awarded a Borlaug LEAP fellowship in Spring 2006. She was enrolled in the PhD program at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics. Her research explored the nature of poverty in Ethiopia and Nigeria with a view to understanding the differential impacts of institutions and institutional interventions on households with different poverty status. Specifically, she looked to 1) examine characteristics of poverty stricken households with asset-based measures of poverty, which provide indicators to assess the likelihood of growing out of or falling into poverty; 2) assess the effectiveness of existing formal and informal institutions for different types of poor households and propose alternatives based on poverty features that characterize different households. Dr. Alex Winter-Nelson at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and Dr. Shahidur Rashid at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) mentored Dr. Liverpool. During her fellowship she conducted her research in Ethiopia under the supervision of her IFPRI mentor.

Dr. Liverpool-Tasie joined the department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics at Michigan State University as an assistant professor in January 2012. Her current research focuses on differential effects of policies and poverty reduction strategies on farmer behavior and welfare. This includes accounting for the potentially different marginal benefits of reducing agricultural production constraints; largely credit and information.

Her current work looks at the differential effect of social networks on technology adoption and bargaining power, given household poverty status. Dr. Liverpool's research also looks at strategies to improve efficient fertilizer access and use in developing countries. Her research has looked at using asset poverty measures to better understand the dynamics of rural poverty and its effect on the behavior of farmers.

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**Paswel Marenya****Country:**

Kenya

**University:**

Cornell University

**Department & Degree:**

Applied Economics and Management, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Cornell University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Center for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF)

**Research:**

Modeling soil fertility replenishment investment behavior in the western Kenyan highlands

**Email:**

[p.marenya@cgiar.org](mailto:p.marenya@cgiar.org)

Paswel Marenya was a Borlaug LEAP Fellow in 2006-07 during which he researched on his doctoral dissertation on how returns to fertilizer use are mediated by underlying soil quality and why fertilizer intensification on smallholder farms should be based on a broader natural resources management on-farm. Currently, Paswel is an economist at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) based in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. His research at CIMMYT focuses on the analysis of pathways and impacts of technology adoption among smallholder maize farmers within the framework of sustainable intensification. Before CIMMYT, he worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), in Washington DC. He has published on natural resource mediated poverty traps among maize farmers in Kenya, farmer policy preferences for supporting technology adoption among maize farmers in Malawi and on understanding the most effective means for upscaling new maize varieties and farming technologies.

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## Borlaug LEAP- Past Fellows Directory (Summer 2006)

### Aminata Diarra

**Country:**

Mali

**University:**

University of Hawaii at Manoa

**Department & Degree:**

Soil Science, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

University of Hawaii at Manoa

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

**Research:**

Development of Natural Rock Phosphate Algorithm to Diagnose the Suitability for the Use of Rock Phosphate for a Cropping System and Soil

**Email:**

[aminata@hawaii.edu](mailto:aminata@hawaii.edu)

{No Bio}



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### Antonio Querido

**Country:**

Cape Verde

**University:**

University of Hawaii at Manoa

**Department & Degree:**

Tropical Plant and Soil Science, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

University of Hawaii at Manoa

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

**Research:**

Present a Method to Predict Soil Organic Stock at a Regional Scale Using Cost Effective Technologies and Methodologies to Enable Countries to Estimate their Carbon Sequestration Potential



**Email:**

[Querido@hawaii.edu](mailto:Querido@hawaii.edu)

Borlaug LEAP Alumni Dr. Antonio Querido hails from the island nation of Cape Verde, located off the west coast of Africa. He was awarded a fellowship in 2006 as he pursued a PhD in Soil Sciences from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He completed his degree in 2008 and served as the Dean of Science and Technology for the University of Cape Verde for two years before joining the joint office of UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA as an Environmental Specialist and the Head of the Environmental Energy and Disaster Preparedness Unit. Dr. Querido continues to work there today.

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**Charity Mutegi****Country:**

Kenya

**University:**

University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa

**Department & Degree:**

Food Safety, Food Security Program, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Pennsylvania State University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

**Research:**

Risk Exposure to Aflatoxin from Consumption of Groundnut Among Households in Kenya

**Email:**

[c.mutegi@cgiar.org](mailto:c.mutegi@cgiar.org)

Dr. Charity Mutegi received her PhD in Food Science from the Food Security Program at University of KwaZulu Natal in South Africa in 2010. She was selected for the Borlaug LEAP fellowship in the summer of 2006 and she completed her fellowship in 2007/2008 during which time she traveled to Pennsylvania State University to work with Dr. Henry Ngugi in the Department of Plant Pathology. She was also mentored by Dr. Richard Jones at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). Mutegi's research focused on the extent of aflatoxin contamination of peanuts from households in western Kenya and causative factors of contamination. After completing her PhD, Dr. Mutegi returned to her native Kenya and began working for Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI). In June 2011, she took a leave of absence from KARI to work on a project spearheaded by IITA. As a part of this project, she serves as the Kenya Country Coordinator for the Aflatoxin Biocontrol Project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The innovative project utilizes biological tools to fight aflatoxin in maize and other strategic staples.

Dr. Mutegi was honored in 2013 with the Borlaug Field Award for Scientific Biological Breakthroughs Combating Deadly Grain Mold at the World Food Prize in Des Moines, Iowa. As a part of her work, she spearheaded efforts to identify the cause of, and solution to, a deadly outbreak of aflatoxicosis in 2004-05, which killed 125 people in eastern Kenya who consumed



contaminated grain. Her research led to innovative solutions to that will be used to help prevent future outbreaks and safeguard the region's staple crop of maize. Dr. Mutegi continues to work at IITA as a research scientist.

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### **Daniel Kerage**

**Country:**

Kenya

**University:**

Kenyatta University, Kenya

**Department & Degree:**

Biotechnology and Biochemistry, MS

**US Mentor institution:**

University of Iowa

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

**Research:**

Evaluate the Potential of the Bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes* as a Vaccine Carrier to Stimulate CTL Responses Against *T. Parva* Antigens

**Email:**

[d.kerage@cgiar.org](mailto:d.kerage@cgiar.org)

Daniel Kerage is from Kenya and was awarded the Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) fellowship in Summer 2006. He was enrolled in the Master's program at Kenyatta University in the Department of Biochemistry & Biotechnology. The project was aimed at evaluating the potential of the bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes* as a vaccine carrier against a highly fatal lympho-proliferative cattle disease called the East Coast Fever (ECF), which is endemic in Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa. Specifically, he intended to evaluate the potential of live attenuated recombinant *Listeria monocytogenes* expressing Cytotoxic T Lymphocytes (CTLs) *Theileria parva* vaccine candidate antigens to induce CTL responses in cattle and determine whether these immune responses can protect against a lethal parasite challenge.

Dr. John Harty at University of Iowa, Dr. Simon Graham at Veterinary Laboratories Agency, VLA, UK, Dr. Duncan Mwangi at ILRI, and Dr. Eucharia Kenya at Kenyatta University all had a hand in mentoring Dr. Kerage during his fellowship.

In 2013, Dr. Kerage won the prestigious Pfizer President's Presenter Award for his work the *listeria monocotygene* vaccine while at ILRI. He completed his PhD in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Alberta, Canada in 2016, researching the direct and indirect effects of cytomegalovirus infection on vascular function during pregnancy.

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## **Kibiby Mtenga**

**Country:**

Tanzania

**University:**

University of Florida

**Department & Degree:**

International Extension, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

University of Florida

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

**Research:**

Comparative Analysis of Strategies for Linking Farmers to Markets: a Discourse on Gender Equity, Community Empowerment, and Natural Resource Management in Malawi

Ms. Mtenga passed away in April 2010.

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## **Mamadou Chetima**

**Country:**

Niger

**University:**

Cornell University

**Department & Degree:**

Animal Science, Environmental Information Science, Natural Resources, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Cornell University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

**Research:**

Evaluate Changes in how Agro-pastoralists' Households Rely on Livestock for Food and Income Generation in Niger

**Email:**

[chetima@gmail.com](mailto:chetima@gmail.com)

{No Bio}

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## **Peter Aikpokpodion**

**Country:**

Nigeria

**University:**

University of Ibadan, Nigeria

**Department & Degree:**

Plant Breeding and Genetics, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Pennsylvania State University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

**Research:**

Genetic Diversity of Cacao Collections in Nigeria.

**Email:**

[petaikpo@yahoo.com](mailto:petaikpo@yahoo.com)



Dr. Peter Aikpokpodion was awarded the Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) fellowship in Summer 2006. He pursued his PhD at the University of Ibadan through a collaborative research arrangement with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria. Dr. Aikpokpodion's research was aimed at unraveling the extent of genetic diversity in the national cacao genetic resources maintained in gene bank collections and farmers' plantations. He hoped to use the knowledge gained from his research to develop strategies to be adopted for exploitation of the national cacao genetic resources, variety development and institutional policies which would have positive impacts on the farming population through the release of improved varieties and better delivery systems. Specifically, the study provided essential information that explained the extent of genetic diversity in farmers' commercial plantations and how research has benefited cocoa cultivation in Nigeria. Dr. Mark Guiltinan at Pennsylvania State University and Dr. Maria Kolesnikova-Allen at the International Institute of tropical Agriculture (IITA) mentored Dr. Aikpokpodion.

Today, Dr. Aikpokpodion is Team Leader at the Cocoa Value Chain Development Program, administered through the Nigerian government's Ministry of Agriculture. The government is distributing 3.6 million hybrid cocoa pods to farmers in an effort to increase production and export. In his position at the Ministry, Dr. Aikpokpodion is responsible for coordinating the training of over 70,000 farmers and providing support to cooperative groups. The aggressive program intends to not only increase cocoa production but to build new generations of cocoa agric business entrepreneurs. As part of his work, he also facilitates private sector investments and coordinates public-private sector partnerships. In 2010, Dr. Aikpokpodion developed and officially released eight hybrids of cocoa (CRIN Tc.1-8) for Nigeria. These varieties are high yielding, resistant to Phytophthora pod rot and of superior cocoa flavor (confirmed by chocolate manufacturers such as Mars, Inc.). Dr. Aikpokdion is also part of the Cocoa Genomics Consortium which a few years ago sequenced the cacao genome.

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## **Shelmith Mwaniki Waruguru**

**Country:**

Kenya

**University:**

University of Nairobi, Kenya

**Department & Degree:**

Technology of Crop Protection, MS

**US Mentor institution:**

University of Florida

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

**Research:**

Efficiency of Different Hosts in the Propagation of Entomopathogenic Nematodes and Effectiveness of Entomopathogenic Nematodes on the Sweet Potato Weevil

**Email:**

[swaruguru64@gmail.com](mailto:swaruguru64@gmail.com)



Dr. Shelmith Mwaniki Waruguru is a Principal Research Officer working for Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) based at National Agricultural Research Laboratories, Kabete. A Borlaug LEAP Fellowship, awarded to her in 2007, supported her Master's studies on identification of entomopathogenic nematodes, which are biological control agents for arthropod pests. The studies were carried out in the University of Florida USA under the mentorship of Khuong Nguyen, a world-renowned scientist in nematode taxonomy and at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Uganda under Danny Coyne a nematologist. Dr. Waruguru is currently a member of the Kenya Professional Women in Agriculture (KEPAWAE), the Kenyan Entomological society and Beracha, a women's investment group where she is the secretary. She hopes to continue her work with women, using the skills she learned as a Borlaug LEAP fellow to both guide and instruct them.

Dr. Waruguru went on to receive her PhD from the University of Nairobi and has contributed widely in the science of entomopathogens. She contributed in the regional strategy meeting of International Potato Center (CIP), participated in identification of major arthropod pests of East African crops for reference, supervised students on master studies and those on attachment in the department and lectures to visiting groups who had been drawn from the country and abroad. She has continued to identify pest problems for clients and given management recommendations.

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## **Borlaug LEAP- Past Fellows Directory (Fall 2006)**

### **Elliot Mghenyi**

**Country:**

Kenya

**University:**

Michigan State University

**Department & Degree:**

Agricultural Economics, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Michigan State University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)

**Research:**

Effects of the Operations of Kenya's Maize Marketing Board on the Levels of Poverty and the Distribution of Real Incomes in Rural Kenya

**Email:**

[emghenyi@worldbank.org](mailto:emghenyi@worldbank.org)



Kenyan native Dr. Elliot Mghenyi was enrolled in the PhD program at Michigan State University in the Department of Agricultural Economics when he received his Borlaug LEAP Fellowship in Fall 2006. The main objectives of his research were 1) to study rules for efficient sharing of agricultural risks in the context of group credit contracts when members can bargain on the basis of common information about farmer-specific risks and common shocks; 2) to estimate the impacts of group credit on the demand for seed-fertilizer technology, farm labor (both family and hired), and maize yields; (specifically, the study will attempt to use detailed information regarding loan applications, group membership, current lending rules, and historical participation in credit markets to separate the demand side of the market from the supply side, which would enable econometric identification of the effects of credit access); 3) to study optimal commitments that could allow farmers with time-inconsistent preferences to benefit from trends in output prices. Dr. Robert Myers and Dr. Thomas Jayne at Michigan State University, and Dr. Hugo De Groote at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) mentored Dr. Mghenyi. He conducted his fieldwork in Kenya under the supervision of his CIMMYT mentor. Dr. Mghenyi currently works as a senior economist for the World Bank in Washington, DC.

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## **Enoch Quayson**

**Country:**  
Ghana

**University:**  
University of Ghana

**Department & Degree:**  
Food Science, MPhil

**US Mentor institution:**  
Cornell University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**  
Bioversity International

**Research:**  
Effects of Cooking Methods on the Micronutrient Content of Plantain

**Email:**  
[quays001@umn.edu](mailto:quays001@umn.edu)

{No Bio}



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## **Hikuepi Katjuongua**

**Country:**  
Namibia

**University:**  
Michigan State University

**Department & Degree:**  
Agricultural Economics, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**  
Michigan State University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**  
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

**Research:**  
The potential economic and welfare effects of trade policy alternatives of SACU member countries with the EU

**Websites:**  
[Competitiveness of smallholder livestock: The case of Namibia](https://www.slideshare.net/ILRI/competitiveness-of-smallholder-livestock-the-case-of-namibia)  
(<https://www.slideshare.net/ILRI/competitiveness-of-smallholder-livestock-the-case-of-namibia>)

Dr. Hikuepi (Epi) Katjuongua was awarded a Borlaug LEAP fellowship in Fall 2006. She was enrolled in the PhD program at Michigan State University in the Department of Agricultural Economics. The main objective of her research was to evaluate and estimate the potential



economic and welfare effects of trade policy alternatives of SACU member countries with the EU. Specifically, she evaluated the (1) EPA-SADC with the EU and (2) the South African bilateral trade agreement (TDCA) with the EU and (3) Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), on sensitive agricultural sectors: the beef sector (Namibia, Botswana) and the sugar sector (Swaziland).

Dr. Dave Weatherspoon at Michigan State University and Dr. Ousmane Badiane at the International Food Policy Institute (IFPRI) mentored Dr. Katjuongua. She conducted her fieldwork in Namibia, Botswana, Swaziland and South Africa under the supervision of her IFPRI mentor.

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## **Margaret Onyango**

**Country:**  
Kenya

**University:**  
University of Hawaii at Manoa

**Department & Degree:**  
Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**  
University of Hawaii at Manoa

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**  
Bioversity International

**Research:**  
Characterization of East African 'Apple' AAB/AB and 'Muraru' AA groups of Musa accessions.

Dr. Margaret Onyango passed away in February 2015. During her lifetime, Dr. Onyango worked tirelessly to promote banana research and development at the smallholder level. Her passing creates an enormous gap that will be difficult to fill.

Margaret received her Borlaug LEAP Fellowship in 2006. Her mentor was Dr. Richard Manshardt of the University of Hawaii and her CGIAR mentor was Dr. Deborah Karamura of Bioversity International, Uganda. Her PhD dissertation was entitled, 'Characterization of East African accessions of Musa AAB "apple" and Musa AA "Muraru" dessert bananas'. Following her Borlaug LEAP fellowship, Dr. Margaret Onyango received her PhD in Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA in 2007.

After completing her PhD, Dr. Onyango returned to Kenya and took a position at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) where she worked until her untimely passing. She served as the country coordinator for research and management of Banana Xanthomonas Wilt (BXW). Margaret was based at KARI Kisii where she helped communities to manage BXW on farm in Ugunja, Siaya County, Malakisi, Bungoma County and Bumala, Busia County of Kenya using farmer field schools (FFS) and community task forces. Her work under the project 'Strengthening partnerships along value chains to manage Xanthomonas wilt (*Xanthomonas campestris* pv *musacearum*) of bananas in East Africa was ranked "Best KARI Implemented



Project 2012” for solving farmers’ constraints using innovative integrated and holistic approach that recognizes integration and team work across levels, disciplines and gender to increase productivity, commercialization and competitiveness of bananas.

With Margaret's passing, the development community has lost an accomplished scientist and tireless leader who was well respected by farmers, extension agents and scientists alike. She was known for her infectious smile and enthusiastic passion for her research. She will be greatly missed by the whole Borlaug LEAP family.

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## **Richard Miiro**

**Country:**

Uganda

**University:**

Makerere University, Uganda

**Department & Degree:**

Agricultural Extension/Education, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**

Iowa State University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

**Research:**

Transfer of Governance and Partnership skills in PMOs in Uganda

**Email:**

[rfmiiro@iastate.edu](mailto:rfmiiro@iastate.edu)



Ugandan national Dr. Richard Miiro was awarded the Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) fellowship in the Fall of 2006. He was enrolled in a dual PhD program at Makerere University in Uganda and at Iowa State University in the Department of Agricultural Extension/Education and Sociology respectively. Dr. Miiro’s research investigated the role of networks of market-oriented farmer organizations and how those networks were enhancing the organizations’ performance. The research looked at appropriate policy and practical lessons for agricultural service needs, value chain engagement, livelihood demands, organizational acuity, and general self confidence and efficacy.

Dr. Frank Matsiko at Makerere University, Dr. Robert Mazur at Iowa State University and Dr. Pascal Sanginga at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) served as mentors for Dr. Miiro during his fellowship. He conducted his fieldwork in Uganda under the supervision of his CIAT mentor.

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## **Sheila Onzere**

**Country:**  
Kenya

**University:**  
Iowa State University

**Department & Degree:**  
Sociology, PhD

**US Mentor institution:**  
Iowa State University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**  
International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

**Research:**  
Institutional Arrangements and Produce Supply Chains in Uganda

**Email:**  
[sonzere@iastate.edu](mailto:sonzere@iastate.edu)

Dr. Sheila Navalía Onzere is a research scientist with HURDL - the Humanitarian Response and Development Lab within the George Perkins Marsh Institute at Clark University in Massachusetts. She earned a PhD in sociology and sustainable agriculture from Iowa State University. Her research interests focus on livelihoods, gender, food systems, forestry, climate change, and development in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). She has considerable experience working on international development issues in SSA. She received a fellowship from the Borlaug LEAP in 2006 to carry out fieldwork for her dissertation research while attached to The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). Her research focused on the intersection between agricultural innovation, the transformation of social networks and access to markets. While writing her dissertation, she worked as the program coordinator for the Master in Sustainable Development Program at the University of Florida. She has also worked as a gender specialist for the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, Kenya.

In 2014, she was one of the 20 early career scientists from around the world who were invited to attend the global Future Earth Food Systems conference. Since joining HURDL in late 2014, Onzere has worked on various projects which aim to understand agricultural livelihoods and vulnerability to climate change and variability in the Sahel, as well as, projects that focus gender and forest based livelihoods in Malawi and Liberia.



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## **Soul Shava**

**Country:**  
Zimbabwe

**University:**  
Rhodes University, South Africa

**Department & Degree:**  
Environmental Education, PhD



**US Mentor institution:**

Cornell University

**CGIAR Mentor Institution:**

AfricaRice Center

**Research:**

Indigenous Knowledge Representation and Application in Selected Environmental Education Processes in Southern Africa.

**Email:**

[shavas@unisa.ac.za](mailto:shavas@unisa.ac.za)

Dr. Soul Shava joined the Borlaug LEAP Fellowship in 2006 as a doctoral student at Rhodes University in South Africa. Hailing from Zimbabwe, Dr. Shava did his research on indigenous knowledge representation and application in selected environmental education processes in Southern Africa. He was mentored by Dr. Marianne Krasny, a Professor of Natural Resources at Cornell University and Dr. Margaret Kroma, a researcher at AfricaRice in Benin. Dr. Krasny was working on how to create experiences for youth and adults that lead not only to greater environmental, agricultural, and cultural understanding, but, hopefully, more democratic communities.

While at Cornell, Dr. Shava worked with Dr. Krasny on her urban agriculture initiatives and took advantage of their extensive agricultural library to further his knowledge. Dr. Kroma's work involved assessing the status of local seed systems in several sub-Saharan African countries and the social factors that led to the supply and demand dynamic at the time. Dr. Shava worked with Dr. Kroma at AfricaRice to refine his application methods of the indigenous knowledge he collected as a part of his research.

Dr. Shava graduated with his PhD in Environmental Education in 2008 and is currently working for the University of South Africa as a Senior Lecturer in Environmental Education.

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