# Lugard Kaunda Ogaro

emailphone\_numberlocation

## Professional Summary

Visionary humanitarian leader with over 22 years of experience in program management, strategic planning, and resource mobilization. Proven track record in leading multi-sectoral initiatives across WASH, shelter, financial inclusion, and food security in East Africa. Expert in gender equality, climate resilience, and poverty alleviation, with a commitment to creating systemic change through evidence-based, locally-driven solutions.

## Skills

Strategic Leadership, Program Management, Resource Mobilization, Fundraising, Team Leadership, Capacity Building, Partnership Building, Stakeholder Engagement, Financial Management, Operational Management, Gender and Diversity Sensitivity, Program Design, Impact Measurement, Disaster Risk Reduction, Resilience Building, Advocacy, Thought Leadership, Problem-Solving, Negotiation, Decision Making

## Experience

### Startup Lead - Mercy Corps (June 2024 - Current)

Port Sudan

* • Established and managed a €12M EC-funded food security program focused on sustainable livelihoods and climate resilience.
* • Led recruitment and training of a diverse program team, fostering a culture of collaboration and accountability.
* • Developed and implemented a comprehensive MEAL framework to track program progress and measure impact.
* • Cultivated strategic partnerships with local, regional, and international stakeholders to enhance program reach and sustainability.

### Acting Regional Director and Senior Advisor - One Earth Future (January 2024 – May 2024)

* • Provided strategic leadership and oversight for Somalia programs, ensuring alignment with organizational objectives.
* • Managed partnerships with key stakeholders to enhance program effectiveness and sustainability.
* • Led regional growth plans, expanding program impact and addressing emerging needs in gender equality and climate resilience.

### Acting Regional Director - One Earth Future (July 2023 – December 2023)

* • Led Somalia programs, ensuring alignment with strategic objectives and donor expectations.
* • Engaged with key stakeholders to build partnerships and drive collaboration for program effectiveness.
* • Developed country strategies and regional growth plans to address development challenges.

### Director of Programs - Mercy Corps (December 2020 – June 2023)

* • Developed country strategies for emergency and development programs, focusing on poverty alleviation and gender inequality.
* • Fostered partnerships with stakeholders to ensure program sustainability.
* • Managed MEAL frameworks to track program performance and facilitate continuous improvement.

### Chief of Party - Danish Refugee Council (November 2019 - November 2020)

* • Provided strategic leadership for a USD 17 million program focused on durable solutions for Somali refugees.
* • Led a multidisciplinary team to ensure effective program implementation.
* • Cultivated relationships with stakeholders to secure funding and support for initiatives.

## Education

PhD in Disaster Management & Sustainable Development - Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (December 2024)

MSc in Civil Engineering (Environmental Health option) - University of Nairobi (2011)

B.Sc. (Hons) in Civil Engineering - Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (2002)

Diploma in International Environmental Law - United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) (2013)

## Certifications

Project and Infrastructure Financing (2024) - The Knowledge Academy

Personal MBA (2023) - Pan African Leadership Institute

Political Economy Analysis in Action (2020) - Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

System Dynamics Modelling for Business Analysis (2019) - TU Berlin, Germany

People Management Training (2019) - Danish Refugee Council