

CURRICULUM VITAE

VALENTINE WACU KAMAU

Nationality Kenyan
Telephone +254 0721 920193
Email valwacu@gmail.com
LinkedIn www.linkedin.com/in/ValentineWacuKamau
Blog <https://beyondafricanfoodsecurity.wordpress.com/>

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

2012 - 2014 MSc. Nutrition
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (JKUAT)

2006 - 2010 BSc. Biochemistry
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (JKUAT)

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

Registered Nutrition Scientist under the Kenya Nutritionist and Dieticians Institute (KNDI)

DOCUMENTARY

Featured on the Deutsche Welle / Eco-at-Africa documentary on Food Security and Climate Change
<http://www.dw.com/en/solving-africas-food-crisis/a-19465812>

WORKING EXPERIENCE

May 2018 – Present

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology

<https://www.dkut.ac.ke/>

Part-time Lecturer- Nutrition

- Teaching Nutrition and Dietetics units, specifically:
 - Principles of Human Nutrition
 - Micronutrients
 - Macronutrients
- Lesson plan development
- Lecture notes preparation
- Motivating the students to be creative in coming up with problem solving solutions to nutrition problems in Kenya

April 2016- Present

International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

<https://ciat.cgiar.org/>

Consultant- Food and Nutrition Research

Quinoa Grain Project and Bean based Pasta Project

Responsibilities and Achievements:

- Development of work plan and projection of timelines to ensure timely result delivery while creating awareness on the highly nutritious plant quinoa which is native to South America. Quinoa's uniqueness is its high quality protein consisting of all the essential amino acids. It is also rich in several micro nutrients such as vitamins, iron, zinc and calcium.
- Development of a bean based pasta product that is unique due to its high protein content and quick preparation time.
- Identification of quinoa varieties that have potential to grow in African countries. This is through yield and nutrient content analysis of the quinoa plant in five African countries.
- Carry out literature reviews and manuscript development while leading product development for products.

June 2014- December 2015

Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)

<http://www.clintonhealthaccess.org/>

Field Project Coordinator – Maternal Newborn and Child Health

Responsibilities and Achievements:

- Successful sensitization of public health workers on the importance of ORS/Zinc usage in children under five years' diarrhea cases in Nairobi County government dispensaries, clinics and

hospitals. This was through strategic reminders with the slogan “Zuia Kuhara, OkoaMaisha” i.e. “Prevent Diarrhea, Save Lives”.

- Programming and implementation of Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) training among health workers thus enabling workers to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of a child thus not missing diarrhea and other health issues.
- Provided strategic, analytical communication and project management support while developing strong relationships with private sector stakeholders as well as public sector stakeholders in the Ministry of Health (MOH).

May 2012- May 2014

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (JKUAT)

www.jkuat.ac.ke

Food and Nutrition Security Research Assistant

Responsibilities and Achievements:

- Successfully completed Belgium VLIR-UOS funded food and nutrition security project (<https://www.biw.kuleuven.be/m2s/clmt/lmt/research/projects/current/VLIR-UOS-2011>) and made a publication highlighting project achievements (<http://www.iiste.org/Journals/index.php/FSQM/article/view/23118>)
- Development and review of project goals and objectives which involved design of baseline, mid-term and end of project evaluations. This provided an accurate projection of the project progression that was vital to the donors.
- Provided timely, relevant and accurate input on overall technical aspects that included carrying out laboratory analysis of the project main and specific objectives.

AWARDS

- 2016-2017 UN Empower Women Global Champion for Change
- 2016 Young African Grain Legume Scientist Finalist - Legume Innovation Lab/ Feed the Future/ Michigan State University
- 2016 Participant in the World Bank initiative ‘Blog4Dev’ – How to Boost Opportunities for Youth in Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.

CONFERENCES

- 3rd- 5th October 2016: **CRP DrylandCereals and CRP Grain Legumes Review Meeting at ICRISAT** in Patancheru, Hyderabad- India.
 - Enhancing post-harvest processing and market opportunities for the common bean.
- 6th September 2016: **Falling Walls Lab Conference** in Nairobi, Kenya. The Presentation was:

- Breaking the wall of malnutrition through Quinoa
- 28th February- 6th March 2016: **Pan African Grain Legume and World Cow Pea Conference** in Livingstone, Zambia. I made two presentations:
 - Pre-Processing Techniques, Cooking and Nutritional Properties of Common Beans Grown in Kenya
with Regard to Storage Conditions and the Hard-to-Cook Defect.
 - Raising the Profile of the Common Bean: Starting with Integrated Seed Systems and Gender Equity in Kenya.
- 26th September 2015: **Food and Nutrition Security Stakeholders' Workshop** at African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD), Juja- Kenya.
- 25th June 2014: **Food Additive and Food Safety Workshop** held at the Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi-Kenya.
- 14th -15th November 2013: **8th JKUAT Scientific, Technological and Industrialization conference & exhibition under the theme "Science, Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development"** held at African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD), Juja.
- 18th October 2013: **Food and Nutrition Security Project Stakeholders' Workshop** at African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD), Juja.
Successful participation and exhibition at the annual Nairobi & Nyeri International Trade Fairs in September, 2013.

REFERENCES

1. Dr. Mercy Lung'aho
Nutrition Lead

International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

m.lungaho@cgiar.org

+2540720114563

2. Prof. Anselimo Makokha

Advisor- Nutrition Projects

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (JKUAT)

anmokokha@agr.jkuat.ac.ke or anmakokha@gmail.com

+2540713817436

3. Dr. Daniel Ndaka Sila

Nutrition Project Coordinator

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (JKUAT)

dnsila@agr.jkuat.ac.ke or dndaka@hotmail.com

+2540716238803