

SAMUEL WAKANG’U KIARIE

PERSONAL DETAILS

Address P.O. Box 416-00217, Limuru, KENYA.
Tel: (Mobile) 0723519144
E-mail: samcvsk@gmail.com

EDUCATION

2013-2016: M.Sc. Environmental Studies: Kenyatta University

- **Courses taken:** Integrated Environmental Impact Assessment and Audit, Participatory and Qualitative Research Approaches, Environmental Organisational and Institutional Development, Ethics, Politics and Environmental Governance, Research Methods and Scientific Reporting, Applied Statistics and Community Capacity Building.
- **Thesis:** Effects of trends of climate variability and small-scale farmers’ perception and adaptation strategies in Kijabe location, Kiambu county, Kenya

2008-2012: B.Sc. Environmental Education: Kenyatta University

- **Courses taken:** Forest Resources, Wildlife Ecology, Water Resource Management, Municipal Solid Waste Management, Population and Natural Resources in Kenya, Land Degradation and Desertification, Industrial Ecology and Cleaner Production, Land use and Evaluation, Environmental Planning and Management, Research Methods, Environmental Impact Assessment and Audit.
- **Research topic:** Community Participation in Forest Management: A case study of Kereita Forest in Lari Division, Kiambu County, Kenya.

2012-2013: Diploma in Project Management: Kenya Institute of Management

- **Courses taken:** Legal, Policy and Community issues in Project Management, Strategic Management, Project Planning, Design and Implementation, Financial and Quality Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Procurement and Supply chain Management.
- **Research topic:** Factors influencing the implementation of donor funded projects in Kenya.

2003-2005: Diploma in Computer Studies: Estenest College

Courses taken: Information Technology, System analysis and Design, Web design and Programming, Communication.

EMPLOYMENT

2018 to date: County Director Natural Resources and Forestry, Kiambu County

Responsibilities:

- Supervise natural resources programmes, control and coordinate functions in the natural resource section and handle administrative, human resources and asset management issues in the section;
- Develop, Implement and evaluate relevant divisional structures, plans, programmes and projects in natural resources sector;
- Oversee preparation of annual work plans and financial budgets and coordinate activities by scheduling work assignments, setting priorities, and directing the work of subordinate employees;
- Develop and conduct programs to manage county natural resources including wildlife;
- Make recommendations to acquire land based on ecosystem management, recreation needs and state needs and directs land acquisition efforts;
- Evaluate and verify employee performance through the review of completed work assignments and work techniques;
- Determine wildlife and natural resources management program needs and opportunities in an assigned geographic or program area and coordinate with partner programs divisions, bureaus or offices, as well as, other agencies, departments or public or private groups;
- Assist in the formulation of policies, procedures, plans for existing, and new natural resources management programs and ensure the evaluation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations;
- Management of natural resources and forest officers as well as undertakes the planning of planting and harvesting activities and the monitoring and management of planted areas in the county;
- Provide technical leadership and guidance to staff members assigned to offices and multidisciplinary team, and develop a team approach to issues related to forests, wildlife, watershed management and climate change;
- Oversee the inventory, use, and maintenance of equipment and facilities used for natural resources management;
- Develop and coordinate implementation of performance and financial management controls to ensure cost optimization and utilization;
- Prepare financial budgets for the forestry and natural resources sector

2016 to 2017: Programmes Coordinator of Daughters of Charity, St. Vincent De Paul

Responsibilities:

- Developing innovative approaches and models that would ensure sustainable use of natural resources and promote livelihood improvement.
- Ensuring policies and procedures governing the implementation of natural resources and livelihood improvement programmes are in place and implemented.
- Developing annual programme plans and financial budgets for each programme

- Developing programmes funding proposals targeting the existing and new overseas and local funding agencies.
- Developing and schedule programmes work plan in accordance with the specifications and funding limitations and oversee its implementation within the required time frame/period
- Managing and provide technical advice and guidance to project managers in the implementation of natural resource management and livelihood improvement projects.
- Facilitating progressive evaluation of each project and recommend strategies for improvement.
- Ensuring periodical narrative and financial reports are written as may be required by donors or authorized agencies.
- Comparing annual program plan/financial budget with actual activities and monitor variances and ensure corrective measures are taken.
- Ensuring that all implementation activities of the projects are in compliance with existing government policies/Acts and other regulatory requirements.
- Coordinating capacity development programme for staff.
- Facilitating programme and staff appraisal and perform administrative duties

2012-2015: Project Coordinator of Nature Kenya via Kijabe Environment Volunteers

Responsibilities:

- Developing Participatory Forest Management Plans and Forest Management Agreement for all the forests in Kiambu County.
- Developing the capacity of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs) to co-manage the forest reserves with KFS and WARMA for biodiversity conservation.
- Facilitating forest restoration programme that restored more than 3,000 hectares in Southern Aberdare forest.
- Coordinating biodiversity research and monitoring in collaboration with National museums of Kenya, Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and making recommendations that promote sustainable management of biodiversity.
- Mobilizing community members to participate in activities that promote sustainable use of natural resources in Kiambu County.
- Facilitating capacity development trainings for local organizations and institutions active in natural resource management and community development.
- Identifying and popularizing key potential ecotourism opportunities within Kikuyu Escarpment Forest in Kiambu County.
- Championing youth leadership in protecting and conserving ecosystem and associated biodiversity and promoting sustainable use of forest resource in Kikuyu Escarpment Forest in Kiambu County.
- Preparing financial budget and ensuring proper accounting of the conservation funds according to donor's requirement.
- Coordinating project monitoring and evaluations process to ensure project objectives are effectively and efficiently achieved.

- Ensure timely and comprehensive financial and narrative report writing
- Developing and designing conservation projects and making funding applications.
- Performing administrative duties

Jan-Dec 2011: Project Assistant of Ecological Society for Eastern Africa

Responsibilities:

- Organizing and coordinating trainings for Ecological Society for Eastern Africa members and colleges/ universities students on climate change, green economy, biodiversity conservation, Environmental education for sustainable development etc.
- Coordinating forest restoration programme in Karura and Aberdare forest.
- Assisting in fundraising, publicity and marketing for the society
- Managing the ecological database, report writing and performing administrative duties.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: Consultancies, Contracts and Projects

2012-2016: Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP) affiliated with Ministry of Agriculture.

- I led a group of professionals in organising, and developing capacity of farmers on natural resource management, climate change and agro-forestry. Developing linkages and partnership between farmers and various actors e.g. farmers and service providers. Designing and developing various value chain project proposal that promote environmental sustainability.

2014-2015: Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation

- I worked with local conservation groups and Kenya Forest Service in Conservation of the Kikuyu Escarpment Forest and support local livelihoods through promotion of community driven initiatives. **Key responsibilities included;** developing and supporting marketing strategies for the forests as tourist destination. Developing and supporting partnerships and alliance for marketing natural resources. Supporting the empowerment of existing community institutions. Promoting environmental education for the tourists and public at large.

2012: Millennium Community Development Initiative funded by European Union (EU).

- I led a team of researchers in conducting a baseline survey on understanding environmental issues in Kiambu County. **Key responsibilities included;** collecting and analysing key environmental issues in Kiambu County with the aim of developing advocacy campaigns around them as well as developing relevant trainings for community based institutions, with a special focus on promoting community participation in integrated water management and sustainable Natural Resource Management projects in the county.

2011 to date: Community Volunteer Service Kenya

- I founded a youth led conservation group that work to promote sustainable uses of the forest by diversifying income-generating opportunities (particularly through ecotourism and eco-agriculture) for the local communities and enhancing community awareness.

These are directly linked with the forest and environmental conservation including intensive forest restoration.

2007-2010: Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) funded by Government of Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF)/World Bank

- I was in charge of Environmental Education and Youth Empowerment Project. **Key responsibilities included;** mobilizing schools and youth to participate in conservation activities; Coordinating training workshop on sustainable use of natural resources; Developing environmental education and awareness materials that promote sustainable management of natural resources.

2006: Canadian Ecology Centre, affiliated with Ministry of Natural resources and Forestry-Mattawa, Canada

- I worked with a group of professionals to coordinate environmental education, use of technology in the forest and traditional outdoor skills and activities for Canadian high school students, college/university students, youth groups, among others. Assisted graduate students from Nipissing University to collect data on the diversity, distribution, structure, current threats and conservation status of biodiversity to guide management planning and promote sustainable natural resource management and conservation of Ontario ecosystem in Canada.

2005: National Forest Resources Management and Agro forestry Center (NAFRAC), Shinyanga, Tanzania

- I worked with a team of professionals to support local communities with the planning of environmental conservation project activities through Community-based Mechanism for Sustainable Forest Management model.

2003: National Museums of Kenya (NMK), Ornithology department

- I worked with a team of researchers from NMK in conducting a research on globally threatened Bird- Abbott's Starling. **Key responsibilities included;** assessing the population and geographical distribution of Abbott's Starling within Kikuyu Escarpment forest as well as the general Forest monitoring and evaluation on the human activities undertaken in the forest and their effect to bird's life.

OTHER RUNNING POSITIONS

2013 to date: Lead Expert of National Environment Management Authority

- I carry out Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental Audit

2008 to date: Co-founder and Board Member of Education is Power Foundation

- I am the adviser of Education is Power foundation which is a charitable organization that supports secondary and post-secondary education for East African Youths

PUBLICATIONS

- Kiarie, S.W. 2016. Effects of trends of climate variability and small-scale farmers' perception and adaptation strategies in Kijabe location, Kiambu county, Kenya, Unpublished Master's Thesis, Kenyatta University
- Kiarie, S.W. 2013. Factors influencing the implementation of donor funded projects in Kenya: a case study of local conservation groups in Lari District. Unpublished postgraduate Diploma in Project Management, the Kenya Institute of Management.
- Kiarie, S.W. 2012. Community Participation in Forest Management: A case study of Kereita Forest in Lari Division, Kiambu County of Kenya, Unpublished Degree project, Kenyatta University.

SHORT TRAINING COURSES

Oct –Nov 2014: Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Course taken: Introduction to the Ecology and Strategies for Tropical Forest Restoration in Human-Modified Landscapes of Southeast Asia

April 2007: Eco-tourism society of Kenya (ESOK)

Course taken: Stepping-stones for Tourism

Nov 2006: The Canadian Ecology centre-Canada

Course taken: The National Green check Global Positioning System (GPS) Certification

April 2005: National Museums of Kenya and Nature Kenya

Course taken: Fundamentals of Ornithology

MAJOR AWARDS

2013: Outstanding overseas Canada World Youth leadership award

- I received a recognition award for the outstanding achievements in engagement in innovative initiatives that promote peace, intercultural understanding and community and international development.

REFEREES

1. Hon. David K. Kuria
CECM-Kiambu County
Water, Environment, Energy and Natural Resources
P.O Box 2344-00900, Kiambu, Kenya
Tel: 0713603251
E-Mail: david.kuria@kiambu.go.ke
2. Sr. Liz Smith
Mission Development Director
Daughters of Charity, St. Vincent De Paul
P.O. Box 990-00502, Nairobi
Tel: 0734644649
E-mail: liz.smith2410@gmail.com
3. Mr. Julius K. Kariara
Program Manager
KENVO/Nature Kenya
P.O. Box 44486, Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: 0712634786
E-mail: jkenvo@yahoo.com