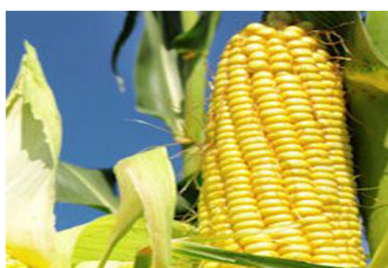


INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK

TOP 25 WOMEN BEHIND AGRICULTURE SECTOR GROWTH, REFORMS AND TRANSFORMATION

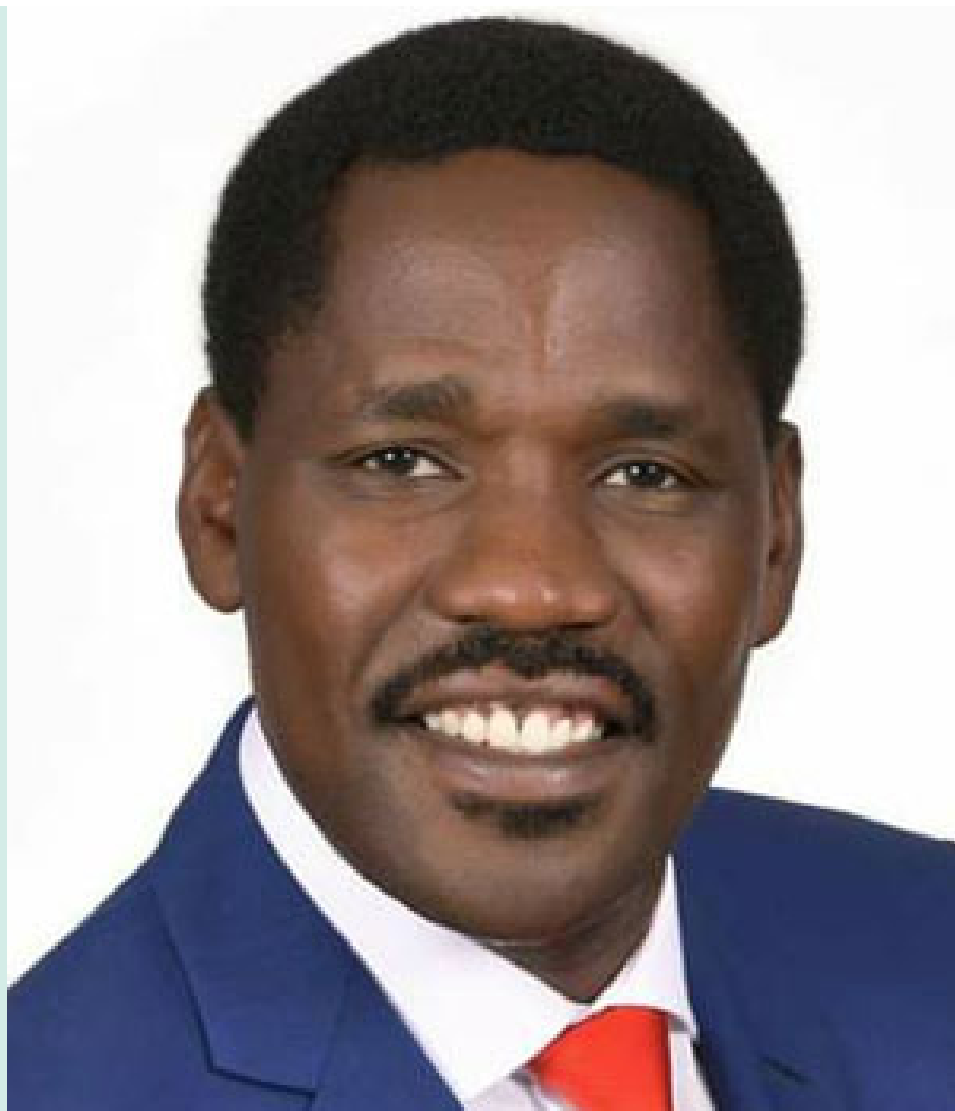


*Happy International Women's
Week 2021*



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK

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As we observe the International Women's Week, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of all women who choose to challenge numerous barriers and the daily challenges of the working in the Agriculture Sector. Our national food security and the bulk of our economic performance depends on their innovation, hard work and talent, to drive the much-needed reforms and transformation to realize the transformation envisaged in the Big 4 Agenda.

Today, I congratulate 25 women drawn from various departments, directorates and semi-autonomous agencies under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives. The exemplary accomplishments and service of these trailblazers are noteworthy, and I hope that they will inspire a new generation of service men and women to join us in taking this crucial sector to the next level, and in securing Kenya's food and nutrition status now, and for our future generations.

Hon. Peter G. Munya, EGH



**Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives**



Anne Nyaga

Ms. Nyaga is a Chief Administrative Secretary for the State Departments of Crops and Agricultural Research and Cooperatives. She was previously the County Minister for Agriculture in the County Government of Embu, Co-founder of the 4-H Kenya Foundation and Chief Executive Officer of Farm2Home Ltd.

The Chief Administrative Secretary considers her legacy to be successfully re-framing agriculture as an industry of first choice for young Kenyans. She is currently working on policies and programmes to promote their recruitment, engagement and retention in the sector in line with the Big 4 Agenda and Vision 2030 objective of transforming Kenya into a middle-income economy and the Sustainable Development Goal no. 2 envisioning a zero Hunger Kenya by 2030.

An agripreneur with a rich background as a farmer, aggregator, transporter and an expert on the watermelon value-chain, she is renowned as one of the pioneers of the Kenyan youth agrarian revolution. She has spearheaded the revival of school-based agricultural clubs popularly known as 4-K and Young Farmers clubs. In 2019, she was invited as key note speaker to the IFAD Governing Council Conference in Rome to articulate, on behalf of the global youth movement, the urgent need for the agency, its member states and development partners to re-engineer its policies and global programmes to more effectively address the bottlenecks and barriers for youth entry into the agriculture careers.



Thule Lenneiye

Ms Lenneiye is the Agriculture Transformation Office Coordinator, responsible for monitoring and reporting progress on the ministerial projects under the Agriculture Sector Growth and Transformation Strategy (ASTGS), the Big 4 Agenda and the COVID-19 Food Availability response working closely with the Cabinet Secretary, Chief Administrative Secretaries and Principal Secretaries.

She is tasked with capacity assessment and enhancement which has brought new talent to the Ministry. Her youthful energy, sound judgement in decision-making, technical & business/organizational knowledge, motivational techniques and personal leadership have been instrumental in driving change within the Ministry and in mobilizing the Council of Governors and County Governments, Private Sector and Development Partners to support the implementation of the ASTGS.

Her most notable contributions to the sector at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic included coordination of the Food Security War Room, facilitating the launch of the Agriculture Digital Strategy, driving the digitization of the Ministry, and catalysing the digitization of the Food Balance Sheet.



Lucy Obungu

Lucy Obungu is the acting Fisheries and Blue Economy Secretary, with responsibilities to support Legal, Regulatory, and Institutional Framework in Fisheries, Aquaculture and Blue Economy Management, Development Coordination.

She is a Fisheries Expert who has served in public service in the Fisheries sub-sector for close to 30 years in different capacities and has been a team leader in various departments in the State Department for Fisheries Aquaculture and the Blue Economy and Kenya Fisheries Service; working closely with stakeholders in the management, development, conservation and sustainability of fisheries resources.

Her in depth knowledge in artisanal and commercial/industrial fisheries, Capture fisheries and Aquaculture, and the contribution to Blue Economy development, official controls and quality assurance of fish and fishery products, fisheries policy formulation and domestication; overseeing implementation of projects in Fisheries has been instrumental to the Ministry's ongoing work in the promotion of the Blue Economy Sector, to achieve the Big 4 Agenda.



Mary Nzomo

Hon. Mary Nzomo is an Agricultural Economist who has served as the CEC Agriculture, Livestock Fisheries & Cooperatives Development in the County Government of Trans Nzoia. She has also been the Chair of the Council of Governors Agriculture CECMs caucus since December 2017 until February 2021. She has 25 years of experience in Agricultural Extension and implementation of various donor funded projects & programmes, and has received several awards for top performance and leadership roles.

Her service to the country since the onset of Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020 has been instrumental to the roll-out and implementation of the protocols and guidelines across all counties, that facilitated the resumption of agricultural services and reopening of markets. She has faithfully represented Counties in the fortnightly Food Situation War Room meetings and provided vital information on the state of food and nutrition security of the populace across the 47 Counties.

She aspires to empower the Kenyan farmer and has a passion for young people & women in the Agriculture sector, many of whom she has assisted to access funding for agriculture-based projects.

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Beatrice Kimemia

Beatrice is a Chief Magistrate and a transformative leader who executes her functions with no compromise on integrity.

She was nominated by the Judicial Service Commission and appointed by the Cabinet Secretary as the chairperson of the Cooperative Tribunal in February 2019 for an initial term of 3 years. The Tribunal is charged with the task of adjudicating disputes that concern the business of cooperative societies, and its circuit sittings are gazetted and held on a monthly basis. The full-time tribunal exercises unlimited pecuniary and geographical jurisdiction.

She has been at the fore-front of sensitization of cooperators through leaders' meetings held at the various regions: Nairobi, and Regional Registries at Kisumu, Mombasa, Nyeri, Embu, Meru, Kakamega, Nakuru and Eldoret.

Under her leadership, the tribunal has cleared a backlog of over 2000 cases. During the covid-19 pandemic, it adopted the online conduct of proceedings and was able to work throughout the pandemic with strict observation of the Ministry of Health Safety Protocols and Guidelines.

"We endeavor to deliver timely and just decisions to the cooperators by having an efficient mode of delivery of justice. This is because we realized that a lot of finances are locked up in cases and the expeditious disposal ensured the release of such monies back to the economy", she says in her own words.

As a woman with a disability, she is a role model to many young women and men, and commits time to mentoring the next generation of young women to perform their duties with diligence and integrity.



Dr. Esther Kimani

Dr. Kimani has 30 years of experience in the agricultural system for as a researcher and as an agricultural regulator. She is currently the CEO of the Pest Control Products Board and was previously Managing Director of the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service, where her duties included advising the Government on policy issues on matters of Sanitary and Phytosanitary, Plant Variety Protection and Seed Certification and ensuring compliance to Food Safety standards and regulations for agricultural exports and imports.

She was recognized by the International Potato Centre for excellence in the Implementation of the Business Plan for Sustainable Sweet Potato Early Generation Seed Production in 2018 and was named 1st runners up in the Avocado Person of the Year, 2019 awards, for her dedication in advancing the industry.

Under her leadership, KEPHIS won the Aviation Business Excellence Award (ABEA) in 2019, based on Leadership and Management, Human Resource focus, Customer orientation and marketing. Her leadership led to the strengthening of the pesticide residue monitoring program, where KEPHIS' role in certification of fresh produce exports for pesticides on export products was recognized and the institution added more responsibilities for certification of local products in 2019.

She was also instrumental in Kenya's realization of a significant increase in number of exporters of Agricultural products to various global markets to meet increased demand of Kenyan agricultural products. Most notably, her efforts in Pest Risk Analysis and negotiating access of Kenyan avocado and Stevia to the Chinese market and addressed the concerns of the SPS Europe concerns of the European market leading to increased compliance of horticultural products especially French Beans and Peas.

Dr. Kimani championed the seed sticker label that has been a game-changer in verification of certified seeds, and oversaw the development of Seed Potato Production and Certification Guidelines which led to the release of more than 30 varieties of potatoes and increase in potato seeds production from 500 tonnes in 2014 to 5000 tones in 2019/2020, a key Contribution to Kenya's Big 4 Agenda on Food and Nutrition Security.

Margaret Kibogy, Managing Director of the Kenya Dairy Board. Since taking up this position, she has ensured Kenya's active membership at the Global Dairy Sustainability Forum, the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and the Codex Alimentarius – on international dairy standards. As a champion of innovation, she has overseen the roll out of the First Dairy National Awards in recognition of the performance of dairy value chain stakeholders.

She has championed efficiency in the dairy value chain through adoption of appropriate practical technology. Under her leadership, the Board is automating its core processes to enhance availability of customized data, through driven policy and regulatory environments that provides incisive insights for a sustainable industry.

She is an enforcer of strict regulatory controls in the management of imports of dairy products and has driven reforms in the regulatory framework that manages the Dairy Industry through supporting and driving for the review of the Dairy regulations to ensure sustainability of the industry. She is a Champion of enhanced public and private partnerships that enhance access to technologies boosting production, processing, and trade in dairy products and is ensuring that the industry remains responsive to the needs of all stakeholders in the dairy value chain.

Margaret Kibogy



Jane Wambugu

Ms. Jane Wambugu is a Deputy Director Agriculture and Head of Agri- Nutrition unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives.

Jane has worked with the Ministry of Agriculture as Agriculture and Home Economists for 27 years. She has mainstreamed nutrition in Agriculture departments (Crops, livestock and fisheries) as well as forming a link between Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health through the Food and Nutrition Linkages Technical Working Group. This link has enabled the two ministries to jointly work together on nutrition interventions. As head of unit, Jane has brought several partners together from public and private sector and successfully held three (3) Agri-Nutrition Regional and National Conferences. She has contributed in the development of several documents that link Agriculture and Nutrition including Kenya food composition tables 2018, Kenya Recipe Book 2018, Kenya Agri-Nutrition implementation strategy 2020-2025, Kenya flour blending framework and Agri- Nutrition in-service curriculum. In response to COVID -19 pandemic she spearheaded the development of national agri-nutrition guidelines which led to the launch of the 1 million Kitchen garden initiatives.



Dr. Mindraa Betty Nyonje

Dr. Nyonje is the director in charge of Aquaculture and Mariculture, The Oceans and Blue Economy Office (TOBEO) in the Executive Office of the President and also serves as a Technical Advisor, Fisheries and Blue Economy in Policy and Strategy Unit of the Executive Office of the President. She is a research scientist with the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute with over 30 years' experience in aquaculture research and development, management, policy formulation and training. Her main area of focus has been in the promotion of marine aquaculture with particular focus on seaweed farming in the coastal region of Kenya.

Betty has served in various research and development-oriented committees including membership in the National Aquaculture Development Working Group, that was tasked with policy and strategy formulation to guide national aquaculture development for Kenya, and the secretariat for the Fish Farming Economic Stimulus Program.

Since 2016, she has been a member of the Secretariat for the Blue Economy Implementation Committee in the Office of the President. She also served as the officer in charge of Mariculture and Blue Economy in the State Department for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Blue Economy in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperative. Currently,

Dr. Nyonje is a member of a number professional organizations and has written extensively in her area of expertise.



Beatrice Nyandat

Ms. Beatrice Nyandat is an Ag. Director of Blue Economy Management and Development at the State Department for Fisheries, Aquaculture and the Blue Economy.

She has been actively involved in the processes of developing Kenya's National Aquaculture Strategy and Development Plan, Aquaculture Policy and Aquaculture Regulations including the National Fisheries and Oceans Policy. She has also worked to ensure that gender is an integral part of aquaculture policy, practice and research and has risen through the ranks and to handle affairs of government which involve the framing and implementation of policy in consultation with the relevant stakeholders.

Her experience spans the science -policy interface, across a number of national, regional, and international fisheries and aquaculture management areas, including working with several projects for government. She has been instrumental in ensuring that the capacity of fish farmers is strengthened and there is availability of quality fish seed and feeds to support the growth of the sector in a sustainable manner. She has been actively involved in the processes of developing Kenya's National Aquaculture Strategy and Development Plan, Aquaculture Policy and Aquaculture Regulations including the National Fisheries and Oceans Policy. She has also worked to ensure that gender is an integral part of aquaculture policy, practice and research.



Dr. Jane N. Njiru

Dr. Jane N. Njiru is the Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate Council, which is a body corporate established in 2015 with a mandate to regulate the manufacture, importation, exportation, registration, distribution, prescription and dispensing of Veterinary Medicines and the practice of Veterinary Pharmacy in Kenya. She has served in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives for over 25 years where she has held various Technical, Administrative and Leadership positions. She has a wealth of experience in Toxicology and Risk management and has contributed significantly to the development and regulation of Veterinary Services in Kenya and in the East African Region, where functional regulatory frameworks for animal health resource industry have been developed.

Her role is to ensure that the drugs, vaccines & other biological materials, feed supplements, acaricides, equipment and instruments used in the management of animal health in the country are safe, effective and of high quality. This will not only assure livestock farmers of value for money but also safeguard human health and the environment. Use of safe and effective veterinary medicines will improve productivity thereby addressing food and nutrition security hence contributing to the achievement of the Big 4 agenda and sustainable development of the livestock subsector.

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Dr. Monica Maichomo

Dr Monica Maichomo is the director, KALRO-Veterinary Research Institute located in Muguga since August 2014. She has more than 20 years of research experience having worked with Kenya Trypanosomiasis Research Institute and currently with Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO).

Prior to the current position, Dr Maichomo was head of Epidemiology section in KARI-TRC. She has vast experience as a veterinarian, with research interests in veterinary epidemiology, zoonoses, One health, AMR and vaccine development work.

She also has teaching experience of 2 years as part-time lecturer at JKUAT and is a lead investigator and collaborator in various projects to improve on animal source food safety and overall food security.

As director of the Veterinary Research Institute, she found the CBPP vaccine development in the formative stages and supported its development now in the final phase of on-station trial and field testing. She has also overseen the initial stages of developing the camel mastitis sub-unit vaccine whose studies are half way through.

Dr Maichomo was the lead investigator in the assessment of donkey trade in Kenya that led to theft and inhumane slaughter of donkeys, and threatened to decimate their population with serious implications on rural livelihoods. The research data revealed existing gaps and led to closure of the donkey abattoirs to give room for multiplication of donkeys.



Dr. Monica Olala

Beatrice is a Chief Magistrate and a transformative leader who executes her functions with no compromise on integrity.

She was nominated by the Judicial Service Commission and appointed by the Cabinet Secretary as the chairperson of the Cooperative Tribunal in February 2019 for an initial term of 3 years. The Tribunal is charged with the task of adjudicating disputes that concern the business of cooperative societies, and its circuit sittings are gazetted and held on a monthly basis. The full-time tribunal exercises unlimited pecuniary and geographical jurisdiction.

She has been at the fore-front of sensitization of cooperators through leaders' meetings held at the various regions: Nairobi, and Regional Registries at Kisumu, Mombasa, Nyeri, Embu, Meru, Kakamega, Nakuru and Eldoret.

Under her leadership, the tribunal has cleared a backlog of over 2000 cases. During the covid-19 pandemic, it adopted the online conduct of proceedings and was able to work throughout the pandemic with strict observation of the Ministry of Health Safety Protocols and Guidelines.

"We endeavor to deliver timely and just decisions to the cooperators by having an efficient mode of delivery of justice. This is because we realized that a lot of finances are locked up in cases and the expeditious disposal ensured the release of such monies back to the economy", she says in her own words.

As a woman with a disability, she is a role model to many young women and men, and commits time to mentoring the next generation of young women to perform their duties with diligence and integrity.



Mrs. Nasambu Okoko

Mrs. Nasambu Okoko has won many scientific awards including Head of State Commendation in 2013 as a result of promoting agriculture for improved food and nutrition security. She has developed and promoted technologies in banana, vegetables and ground nuts. These efforts have led to increased yields hence improving food and nutrition for smallholder farmers in Kenya.

As the banana queen, she has assisted numerous smallholder farmers to increase banana production, adopt processing technologies, generated employment opportunities and increased incomes. One notable example is the case of Nyangorora Processors that started as a youth group in 2002 and is now a registered company processing flour, crisps and wine. In addition, this enterprise has provided market for fresh bananas for many banana producers in Kisii and Nyamira Counties and also has employed more than 20 youths. Together with banana team from KALRO, Mrs. Okoko has spearheaded the development of banana technology and innovation management practices (TIMPs) and also the Trainer of Trainers (ToT) manual under the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP) that being used by KALRO and agricultural stakeholders in Kenya to strengthen the value chain of this crop. Mrs. Okoko also coordinated the East and Central African indigenous vegetables project between 2010 and 2013. During this tenure, a vegetable seed production manual was developed and used to capacity build trainer of trainers in Eastern Africa. During the same period, farmers acquired knowledge that helped them increase seed production and hence improved livelihoods especially many farmers contracted by SimLaw Seeds in Bungoma County.

In over 30 years of research Mrs. Okoko and her partners have developed many technologies and published scientific papers that are being used by stakeholders in agriculture. She has also evaluated and identified groundnuts for different uses especially for processing and confectionery.



Ms. Rachel Kisilu

Ms Rachael Kisilu is a Research Officer at Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), based at KALRO-Katamani centre whose research efforts have responded to the needs and demands of Kenyans. She is mostly to be accredited for her work in the development of the high-yielding sorghum (3.4 t/ha) variety "Kamani sorghum" which is now used for brewing the popular sorghum beer, Senator Keg.

Under the SOMNI project in 2020 she has submitted one hybrid and four open pollinated varieties (OPVs) sorghum lines to KEPHIS for release. Under the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP) adaptive research 17 sorghum varieties and soil & water management technologies were validated by 573 farmers in Laikipia, West Pokot and Isiolo in 2020. She has also trained 200 sorghum Trainer of Trainers (ToTs) in sorghum technologies, innovations and management practices (TIMPs) to enhance technology transfer in 10 counties. Ms. Kisilu has also developed four new improved teff varieties (teff is used to make Ethiopian Injeera) ready for release process and additional 5 varieties underway. These varieties will serve as food (gluten-free properties of teff) and feed (teff matures in 45 days with minimal rain). So Marsabit County will soon grow and commercialize Kenya-breed teff varieties, the first of its type.

She is currently the value-chain leader under the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP), where she is undertaking adaptive research on sorghum "Adapting Climate Smart Technologies along the Sorghum Value Chain to Enhance Productivity, Utilization and Improved Livelihoods" as the principal investigator and is also involved in the production and maintenance of early generation seed and promotion of improved sorghum varieties" for 10 counties.

She is pioneering work in the development of high yielding and bird escaping sorghum varieties for food and commercialization under the European Union (EU) funded CS APP project and is working in an IFAD funded project in collaboration with ICRISAT and Africa Harvest on Strengthening Sorghum and Millet Value Chains for Food, Nutritional and Income Security in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands of Kenya and Tanzania (SOMNI)".



Dr. Florence Kaibi

Dr. Kaibi is the Director of the Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate at the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA), where she is in charge of promotion, development and regulation of scheduled crops and value chains, Resource Mobilization.

She has been instrumental in leading development of the the Nuts and Oil crops regulations (2020) as part of the ongoing agricultural reforms in line with the Big 4 agenda.

Prior to joining AFA, she was the Director of the Kenya School of Agriculture, where she served as Head of Campus administration, accountable for training, staff relations, student welfare, academics, financial administration, and facilities and infrastructure management. Directing campus operations and overseeing pre-service and in-service trainings in Agriculture at this agricultural courses-related training institution.

She led the accreditation of the Centre with relevant registration and accreditation bodies. She developed the Centre's strategic plan, quality assurance plan, and other policy documents including the gender policy, and devised a training curriculum for the Centre and delivering short courses to 150 adult learners on value addition, agro-processing, value chain analysis, entrepreneurship and agribusiness development, food security information, and early warning systems.



Halima Nenkari

Deputy Director of Livestock Production, State Department for Livestock Thirty (30) years working experience was previously County Director of Livestock Production, Kajiado.

Halima Nenkari, "Mama Ipomoea (Olbeneyio)" as referred by the rural women in Kajiado County has championed the campaign on eradication of an invasive plant, Ipomoea spp in Kajiado County since 2013, through capacity building the community groups, demonstrations, media documentaries as well as presenting papers in the international conferences. We now have a multi-stakeholder Technical Working Group lead by Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI) to mobilize resources and break the silence on Invasive Species. In the State Department for Livestock (SDL), Halima is a member of the National Technical Committee as well as a member of the secretariat for the development of the Kenyan Livestock Master Plan (KLMP). This plan will be a guide to the development of a sustainable Livestock Sector and attract more and better-targeted investments from the government, development partners, and private sector investors leading to increased contribution to the overall Agricultural GDP, food and nutrition security as well as increased incomes and job creation.

As the County Coordinator, Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme, (ASDSP) she developed the Milk, beef and Tomato Value Chains. This has led to investment in a milk processing plant in Bissil by the Kenya Good Neighbours (KGN) and Tomato Processing Plant in Loitokitok by the Ewuaso Nyiro South Development Authority (ENSDA)

Ipomoea spp: The Threat to Maasai Pastoralists' livelihoods

Halima is known for her strong coordination, networking and mentorship skills in addition to her commitment to Public service with passion, commitment and professionalism

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Mary Kanyi

Ms. Mary Wacera Kanyi is a Deputy Director of Livestock Production at the State Department for Livestock. She is currently the head of Technical Training and Capacity Development Division at the Directorate of Livestock Production. She holds a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics and a BSc. Degree in Agriculture from the University of Nairobi.

She has served for over 30 years in Promotion and Development of Livestock Production Programmes aimed at achieving Food Self-Sufficiency and improve the living standards of the farming communities in Kenya. She has effectively been engaged in coordination and management of Livestock Development Programmes.

Examples of notable Programmes are The National Agriculture and Livestock Development Programme (NALEP) while she served as the Provincial Director of Livestock Production, Central Province and The Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP) where she served as the Programme County Coordinator, Nakuru County. Mary is an active member of the Animal Production Society of Kenya (APSK) and the Kenya Professional Association of Women in Agriculture and Environment (KEPAWAE).

She previously served as Provincial Animal Production Officer in the former larger Rift Valley Province and a Lecturer at Naivasha Dairy Training Institute.

Through collaboration with relevant stakeholders in Agriculture Development, Mary has also published a number of papers most notably: The Concept of Efficient Organization within Market areas, Marketing Development and Policy Implications. The case study of Rural Dairy Marketing in the Meru District, Kenya.

This publication found its way at the 5th International Conference on Marketing and Development, Beijing China and was published in the in the renowned East African Agricultural and Forestry, Journal, Vol.62 No.4 (1998).



Rosemary Magambo

Rosemary Magambo is a Deputy Director in the Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries and cooperative and am active member of member of the Kenya Professional Association of Women in Agriculture and Environment (KEPAWAE), an association that provides a forum for women professionals in the fields of agriculture and environment to deliberate on issues and co-ordinate activities pertaining to their respective professions.

She is a gender expert and certified Monitoring and evaluation specialist. Rosemary has worked in the Ministry for over 25 years and has been instrumental in steering the Ministry on gender issues by contributing to project gender responsive planning, budgeting and reporting and designing a monitoring and evaluation framework for all sector programmes that recognizes that reducing gender inequality is central in enhancing household equitable food and nutrition security and income, which were successfully piloted by two of the largest government programmes (NALEP & ASDSP). She has conducted programme gender responsive baseline surveys and promoted appropriate gender responsive approaches and technologies among women farmers.

She has been responsible for capacity building of staff on mainstreaming of gender in the sector and goes above and beyond her call of duty to provide voluntary technical advisory services to the Women Farmers Association of Kenya (WoFaAK).

Dr Julia Kinyua has over 30 years experience in the livestock sector in various disciplines of veterinary services and has participated in several regional initiatives. She is a specialist in veterinary policy and strategy development, Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards, risk analysis, monitoring and evaluation. Currently, she is working at the Directorate of Veterinary Services headquarters in Nairobi.

For 5 years Dr. Julia was the National Technical Focal Point for the IGAD Livestock Policy Initiative to its very end in 2012. She established the multi stake holder and multi sectoral forum of the Kenya Livestock Policy Hub and played a key role in the development of the IGAD Regional Policy Framework on Animal Health and Trade. Dr. Julia participated towards the development of regional CAADP Compacts for IGAD and EAC. She is the National Livestock Policy Focal Point for the continental programme; Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa. She continues to coordinate the National Livestock Policy Hub and is a member of the Country CAADP team.

Dr. Julia has a bachelors degree in Veterinary Medicine and a master degree in Project Planning and Management all from the University of Nairobi.

Dr. Adalo is an experienced Veterinary Surgeon with over 30 years' experience working in the public sector. She is the Principal Animal Health Industry Training Institute, Kabete (AHITI- Kabete). She is the Chairperson, Kenya Veterinary Association- Women's Branch and the Chairperson, East Africa Women's Veterinary Association.

Marilyn is extremely passionate about addressing the gaps in social determinants of Animal, human and global health. This has led her to pursue studies in One Health, Health Metrics, Global Health, and the Social determinants of Animal and Human Health. She is a member of various societies such as Women in Government, Women in Global Health, and International Society for One Health. She is an astute advocate for animal welfare and has worked with organizations such as Kenya Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (KSPCA) and Brooke East Africa. Her mission is to empower the youth through education and empowering women professionally, socially, and economically.



Dr. Marilyn K. Adalo



Dr Mumina Guyo Shibia

Dr Shibia is very passionate about risk management for the pastoral communities and the entire livestock. She is the main scientist working on the vegetative Index-Based Livestock Insurance in KALRO as an asset protection tool. Her educational, research, and development interests are richly engrained in her childhood experiences as born and raised in Marsabit County in northern Kenya, representing an economically marginalized region where communities derive their main livelihood from pastoralism and livestock. She is a research scientist-an applied economist working for the Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization (KALRO). Mumina has more than 15 years working experience in doing evidence-based scientific research in the livestock sector. She works on analyzing economic and financial impacts of technologies innovation management practices (TIMPs) for the livestock sector. Also, she does competitive livestock value chain mapping.

She has published widely in the field of livestock economics (camel, cattle, goats, sheep, and apiculture) targeting the northern Kenya. Dr Shibia is a Borlaug higher education for agricultural research and development scholar and a research fellow for the Structural Transformation of African Agriculture and Rural Spaces (STAARS). Furthermore, she has robust quantitative and analytical skills built over from working on multidisciplinary policy-oriented projects that blend applied economics, geared towards promoting livestock and national development. Thus, contributes to inclusive development through research and evidence-based policy formulation for the sector.

She has also worked as a monitoring and evaluation expert for 3 national wide projects: Kenya agricultural productivity and sustainable land management, Kenya agricultural productivity and agribusiness, and Kenya adaptation to climate change in the arid and semi-arid lands funded by the World Bank and the Government of Kenya. Dr Shibia was further involved in the development of the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project funded to a tune of USD 250 Million where the livestock research majorly receive support. Her interests include risk management and resilience of pastoral communities to drought shocks, food security, livestock value chain competitiveness, trade and policy, microeconomics and econometrics.



Professor Susan Mbugua

Prof. Mbugua was the second Kenyan woman to graduate with a veterinary medicine degree in 1974. She is a seasoned Professor with over 40 years' experience in the teaching veterinary students. She has mentored many girls into the veterinary profession and other academic fields. She has contributed extensively to the veterinary medicines field and has published over 40 papers in peer reviewed journals.

Prof. Mbugua specializes in small animal ophthalmology, orthopedics, neurology, nutrition of dogs and cats and is the chairperson of the Canine Hip Dysplasia Committee of the Kenya Veterinary Board.

Professor Mbugua has served the profession extensively as an official in the Kenya Veterinary Association and was the chairperson of the Kenya Veterinary Board for 6 years. She was a founding member of the Women's Branch of the Kenya Veterinary Association and she continues to mentor young lady veterinarians to become the best they can in the field. Her efforts have been recognized in awards from the professional bodies in the country and globally.

Professor Bebora is a professor in the field of veterinary microbiology. She was the first Kenyan woman to acquire a PhD in the field of veterinary microbiology. She is a specialist in poultry disease diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. She is a champion in Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) which is a current threat to human and animal health.

She has been on the forefront in research and sensitization on AMR. Prof. Bebora has over 40 years' experience teaching and has supervised many students at doctoral and masters levels.

She currently running one of the laboratories involved in the country's Antimicrobial resistance surveillance activities funded by Flemming fund. She has done a lot of research and has published over 80 papers in peer-reviewed journals and presented over 60 papers in conferences and seminars.

Having hailed from the former Coast province at a time when women hardly went to school, she attributes her success to having supportive parents and this gave her the push to further her education. This experience has made her passionate about mentoring and empowering the girls to scale to greater heights.



Professor Lilly Bebora