

CURRICULUM VITAE – A NINE PAGE SUMMARY

OKEYO BENARDS, PhD (Bremen – Germany), M. Sc. (Bremen), B. Sc. Hons (Egerton-Kenya), Cert. Counseling & psychology (Egerton – Kenya and Pathfinder International)

Senior Lecturer – Pwani University
Head of Environmental Science Department – Pwani University
Founding Director – Eco Ethics International - Kenya

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: Kenyan. *Marital Status:* Married

Languages: English, Kiswahili, Luo (written and spoken fluently) and a working knowledge of German

Biographical Summary



Okeyo Benards is currently a Senior Lecturer at Pwani University in the department of Environmental Sciences. His academic qualifications include: PhD in Social Ecology from Bremen University – Germany, M.Sc. in Aquatic Ecology from Bremen University, B.Sc. in Natural Resources Management from Egerton University – Kenya and Certificate in psychology and counseling from Egerton and Pathfinder International. He is the founder of Eco Ethics – Kenya, a non-state actor active in community mobilization towards sustainable utilization of natural and environmental resources. He has worked extensively with various coastal communities to explore alternative livelihoods, enhance sustainability and balance between consumptive and non-consumptive resource uses, promote environmental education and awareness, advocated for empowerment and acceptable environmental governance. As a donor, he is focused on analysis of community participatory approaches, ecosystems dynamics and management, qualitative research approaches, resilience studies and impacts of climate change on livelihoods among others. He is a member of numerous professional bodies like; Integrated Coastal Zone Management of Kenya, the Nairobi Convention of UNEP, Beaches Technical Committee of the Kenya Bureau of Standards, West Indian Ocean Marine Sciences Association and the Ecological Society of East Africa, an Executive Committee member of Kenya DAAD Scholars Association, Pwani University Ethics Review Committee to mention but a few. He is also a certified EIA lead expert besides being a founder and initiator of several community based groups. Has developed and implemented diverse externally and internally funded projects with bias to aquatic biodiversity, environmental sustainability, fisheries development, improvement of livelihoods and institutional development.

University Career Progression

Sept. 2010 – Apr. 2014: Appointment as a Lecturer Pwani University

May 2014 – to Present: Senior Lecturer – Pwani University

Oct. 2012 – Aug. 2015: School Examinations Coordinator – School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Aug. 2015 – To present: Chairman of Department of Environmental Sciences, School of Environmental and Earth Sciences

Other University Appointments

- Member Pwani University Research Board from 2012 to 2014
- Member Ethics Review Committee since 2011 to current
- Member of the Pwani University Printing and Publication Committee
- Chairman, Staff Annual Party Committee
- Chairman of the departmental post graduate committee since 2011 – responsible for the coordination of the post graduate studies in the department together with other members of the committee
- In-charge - department's seminars and conferences – 2013 - 2015

Research Interests

- Water Resources Participatory Management Techniques
- Water Resources Management
- Environmental management systems and initiatives
- Principles and concepts of aquatic and general ecology
- Biodiversity conservation
- Social-ecological systems analysis
- Coastal zone management and development of integrative approaches for sustainable use of coastal/marine systems and analyses
- Participatory studies and resource management
- Livelihood and agent rationales
- Sustainability research
- Advances in Environmental Audits
- Storm water hazard and risk management
- Climate change variability and adaptation strategies

Research Projects

- Analysis of Community Participation in Water Resource Management in Kilifi county, Kenya
- Sustainable artisanal fisheries management along the Kenyan coast
- Livelihood options for coastal rural communities
- Lead poisoning exposure in informal settlements in Mombasa - Kenya
- Effects of POPs on human and environmental Health
- Understanding women emancipation and orientation in entrepreneurship
- Food security implications in semi-arid areas of coastal Kenya – more specifically in Wenje
- Underground water recharge systems in coastal ecosystems
- Underground water contamination in Kwale - Kenya
- Impacts of provision of sanitary towels in Ganze and Tana Delta on the girl child education

Supervision of post graduate students – completed

- Ndegwa Peter Githui (M.Sc. – 2015). Assessment of factors influencing food security in Wenje Division – Tana River County, Kenya. Pwani University – Kilifi.
- Momanyi Ruth Kwamboka (M.Sc. -2015). Analysis of Biogas Technology Adoption among households in Kilifi – Kenya. Pwani University.
- Sheila Mumbi Asweli Wamugu (M.Sc. – 2016). Effects of Climate Change and adaptation strategies of smallholder farmers in Kilifi, Embu and Budalangi.

- Josep Wanjala Kilwake (M.Sc. 2016). Assessment of water quality in boreholes and wells in Waa location, Kwale County – Kenya.
- Kuso Hussein Kuso (M.Sc. -2016). A case study of management practices for guinea grass (*Panicum maximum*) in Tana Delta sub-county of Kenya.
- Said Abdulahi Omar (M.Sc. – 2017). Assessment of the impact of resource use conflicts on community livelihoods within the Tana Delta sub-county – Kenya.

On-going Supervision of post graduate students

- Collins Owuor (PhD. on-going): Viability of household driven artificial recharge for groundwater management in coastal coral aquifers of Kenya. A PhD thesis – Pwani University – Kilifi.
- Delphina Dali Mzozo (M.Sc. on-going): Determining the drivers of degradation on Ngerenyi watershed in Taita Taveta county – Kenya
- Samuel K. Ngaanga (M.Sc. on-going): Analyzing the ecological footprint of energy for industries in Mombasa Island, Kenya.
- Sakari Benard (M.Sc. on-going): An evaluation of the amount and impacts of lead in decorative paints in Kenya.
- Daniel Maina (M. Sc. On-going): Cultural sentiments of indigenous groups in mineral-rich communities towards the extractive industry: Case of Kwale County, Kenya
- Albert Musando (M.Sc. on-going): Assessment of ecosystem services in ecologically restored limestone quarries of Bamburi nature trail in Mombasa county, Kenya

Courses taught

- Water Resources management - Water Resources Participatory Management Techniques,
 -Urban Ecology and Urban Ecological Foot Print Analysis
 -Aquatic Ecology -Principles of Advanced Ecology -Wetland Resources and Ecology
 -Biodiversity -Environmental Hazards and Risk Management - Research Methods -Human Ecology and Adaptations - Environmental Auditing – Principles of Watershed Management

Previous Academic pursuits

- Examination of how different levels of societal organization (household, communal etc) and cultural orientations impact on resource extraction, uses and maintenance of the biological functions of coastal ecosystems
- Interdisciplinary evaluation of human-environmental relationships by involving both ecological (environmental, biological) and social sciences (domains of culture, anthropology and socio-economic)
- Pursuits to adequately understand the human extraction of resources, responses of the ecosystems (i.e. consequences on biological diversity) and sustainability.
- Conceptualization of mechanisms for conflict resolution between extractive uses of coastal resources (as advocated by local communities) Vis a Vis non-consumptive and conservative approaches (e.g. tourism). In other terms; Illustration of approaches for internalizing environmental benefits for sustainable and all integrative coastal zone management
- Fields of interdisciplinary and integrative research and developmental projects

Public discussions, panelist and guest/keynote Speaker

- On the 29th October 2016 at the culmination of the National Lead Poisoning and Prevention Week of Action, hosted at Mombasa Technical Training Institute in collaboration with the University of Nairobi, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute and Eco Ethics – Kenya at the Mombasa Technical Training Institute.
- 23rd February, 2012. A panelist – Public panel policy discussion on oil and gas development in Kenya at Mombasa Polytechnic University College and organized by CANCO (Community Action for Nature Conservation).

Recent collaborative works

March, 2016 – 2010: Biodiversity Collaborative Project: Human needs and nature conservation – reconciling human livelihood needs and nature conservation in East African forest biodiversity hotspots. A joint research project by; South Eastern University of Kenya, Pwani University, Taita Taveta University College, National Museum of Kenya, Technical University of Munich – Germany and sponsored by DAAD.

April – July, 2014: Youth labour market and skills survey – a project being implemented by Adams Smith International and DFID. A signed MOU with Pwani University and engaged as one of the Principal Researchers.

11/05/2014 – 22/05/2014: An International DAAD Alumni Expert Seminar: Water Use Conflicts – Integrated Watershed Management for the Sustainable Utilisation of Natural Resources for Conservation, Agriculture and Tourism – Athi River Basin/Tsavo West National Park, Kenya, supported by DAAD, GIZ, CICD (Center for International Capacity Development of Siegen University) and Severin Safari Camp of Tsavo West.

August – September 2013: An international DAAD Alumni Expert Seminar: Participatory Watershed Planning for the Tsavo River Sub-Catchment, supported by DAAD, GIZ, CICD (Center for International Capacity Development of Siegen University) and Severin Safari Camp of Tsavo West.

3/01/2013 – 16/01/2013: A joint inter-Universities (Pwani University College, Taita Taveta University College, Technical University of Kaiserslautern – Germany and Freie University of Berlin – Germany) scientific collaboration to study ‘ Integrated soil erosion and flood risk management in Voi – Kenya. Role: The lead scientist from Pwani University College – and responsible for ecological aspects and well as supervision and coordination of student works.

25/07/2012 – 27/07/2012: A facilitator of the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Program) and NCST (National Council of Science and Technology) writing training workshop at Mombasa Polytechnic University.

18/05/2012 – 29/05/2012 – an inter-Universities academic exchange program to undertake a joint field study with scientists from three German Universities of Free University of Berlin, Kaiserslautern Technical University and Madgeburg University on flood and disaster management along river Elbe in Germany. The joint exercise was led by Prof. Dr. Robert Juepner (Technical University of Kaiserslautern), Prof. Dr. Achim Schuelte (Free University of Berlin) and Prof. Dr. Volker (University of Magdeburg).

DAAD Summer School on Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor – Natural Hazards, Climate Change, Governance and Human Rights: Flood Risk Management Options for Informal Settlements in Nairobi Kenya 2011 (www.gawn.de)

Membership/Affiliations

- Executive Board Member of the Kenya DAAD Scholars Association since May 2013 – May 2017
- DAAD alumnus, since 2011
- Member Ecological Society of East Africa
- Fellow of the Eco Ethics International Union - Germany
- Technical member of the Beaches Committee of the Kenya Bureau of Standards
- Member of the NEMA instituted Task Force on ICZM Awareness component
- Technical member of the National Inter-Coastal Zone Management (IZCM)
- Member of Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)
- Member of the Nairobi Convention of UNEP
- Member of IPEN – International POPs Elimination Network

Awards

- Bremen University's Chancellors' Stipendium Award from to read for a Master's of Science study in Aquatic and Marine Ecology at the University of Bremen-Germany.
- German Government, DAAD full Academic Scholarship to read for a PhD in Bremen University – Germany

Recent Publications

- Okeyo Benards (2015). Fisheries of Kenya's Coast: A socio-ecological system in transition. Scholars Press – Germany.
- Ndegwa, P., Okeyo, B., Shauri, H. (2015). Assessment of Factors Influencing Food Security in Wenje Division, Tana River County – Kenya. Food Science and Quality Management, Vol. 44 (2015). ISSN (paper) 2224-6088 ISSN (online) 2225-0557
- Okeyo, B and Hempel, G. (2013). Case studies of changes in the structure of reef lagoon fisheries off Southern Kenya. ECOTROPICA 19:59-72, 2013. Society for Tropical Ecology – Germany.
- Okeyo Benards (2013) in Robert Warren Howard (eds). **Biomes and Ecosystems Encyclopedia: Lake Tanganyika**. Golson Media – USA. ISBN: 978-1-4298-3813-9
- Okeyo Benards (2013) in Robert Warren Howard (eds). **Biomes and Ecosystems Encyclopedia: Slums**. Golson Media –USA. ISBN: 978-1-4298-3813-9
- Schulte, A., Boelscher, J., Arendt, R., Juepner, R., Gintz, D., Boga, H., Too, K., Okeyo, B. (2013). Soil Erosion and Flood Risk Management - field Studies in Voi – Kenya. A joint inter-Universities Field Research Work Report.
- Okeyo, B. and Wangila, A. (2012). Lead Poisoning in Owino Uhuru Slums in Mombasa – Kenya. <http://publishresearch.com/download/128>
- Okeyo, B., Nyaga A.M., Opwonya, D., Mwita, E., Muench, C., Njihia, K., Githuku, C., Cassel, M., Juepner, R. (2011) in **DAAD Summer School on Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor – Natural Hazards, Climate Change, Governance and Human Rights: Flood Risk Management Options for Informal Settlements in Nairobi Kenya** (www.gawn.de)
- Okeyo B. (2010). Artisanal Fisheries of Kenya's South Coast: A transdisciplinary case study of a socio-ecological system in transition. A PhD. thesis – University of Bremen – Germany.
- Okeyo B. (2002). Transplantation of coral fragments for the restoration of coral reefs in Mombasa – Kenya. A M.Sc. thesis – University of Bremen – Germany

REPORTS

Peter Michael Oduor-Odote, Okeyo Benards and Willis Ombai. 2005. Improved methods for traditionally processed fish and fish products along Kenyan coastal area.

Okeyo, B. and O. Barua .2004. Working with fishermen in Chale-Kinondo. A report for the Lighthouse-Foundation (<http://www.lighthouse-foundation.org/index.php?id=8&L=1>)

REVIEW OF EXTERNAL PROPOSALS

- 5th January, 2017: Appointment as a reviewer of research proposals for Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor's Research Grant

NEWSPAPER COMMENTARIES/EDITORIALS

1. Okeyo, B. 20/08/2015. Why they call us 'Poverty Stricken Luos'. The Standard Newspapers – a Commentary.

Why they call us the 'Poverty stricken Luos'

I write this short piece as response to a tweet by one Mutahi Ngunyi, he of the famous 'tyranny of numbers'.

View on www.standardmedia.co.ke

Preview by Yahoo

2. Okeyo, B. 27/03/2011. Mombasa: A Failure in Urban City Management. The nation newspapers – a Sunday Commentary.
3. Okeyo, B. 28/07/2006. With cash taps running dry, the UN is facing great odds. The Standard Newspapers – Nairobi Kenya.
4. Okeyo, B. 08/01/06. Temptations of raw power need to be checked by all. The East African Standard – Nairobi – Kenya (A commentary).

Most recent conferences and seminars attended/convened

- 18th -23rd September, 2016: 1st ZMT Alumni Workshop in East Africa & Final Symposium of the Leibniz Graduate School on Sustainable Use of Tropical Aquatic Systems (SUTAS) and the new IMIS Building Zanzibar, Stone Town - Tanzania
- 11th -13th July, 2017: Change Management and Strategic Leadership – a training offered by NUFFIC Kenya and Q-POINT Training International in Watamu – Kenya.
- 26th and 27th May, 2016: One of the Conveners - DAAD/KDSA Scientific conference on: Access, Equity and Quality to University Education – Critical Assessment of Current Strategies in Kenya held at the Mnarani Club Kilifi.
- 1st -3rd December 2016: First Coastal East Africa Marine Fair at Ngala Memorial, Watamu. A speaker on Marine Conservation, Resource Management and Research.
- 26th February, 2016: Groundwater Risk Management for Growth and Development (Gro for Good). By Gro for Good at Leopard Beach Hotel, Diani.
- 8th February, 2016: Workshop on ecosystem services valuation for the Tana River Delta and Kilifi regions of Kenya. Organized by UNEP and FAO at Watamu Beach Hotel – Kenya.
- 20th – 24th July 2015. Critical Appraisal of Research Proposals training workshop held at Silver Springs Hotel. Coordinated by University of Nairobi, College of Health Sciences with support from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), and funded by National Institute of Health (NIH) of USA.
- 19th – 20th March, 2015. Workshop on development of ICZM Awareness Strategy at CDA Conference Facility – Kilifi.
- 17th – 20th September, 2014. IPEN/REEI Global Toxics Free Future Skill share conference in Kunming – China.
- November, 2014. Civil Society Week – Kwale – Kenya. Mining and mineral extracts in coast province: an environmental perspective
- Sustainable, Public Participation. A DAAD and KDSA (Kenya DAAD Scholars Association)
- 28th to 30th May, 2014. Higher Education Co-operation between Eastern Africa and Germany: Encouraging Leadership, Opening Access and Extending Partnership. A conference to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the DAAD Regional Office for Africa in Nairobi, Kenya. Safari Park Hotel, Kenya.
- 6-8th March 2014. The Power of Excellence in Science – Enhancing Academic Capacities in Africa. A Humboldt-Kolloquium held at Safari Park Hotel – Nairobi.
- 30th -31st May 2013 at Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi: African Cities of the Future: Smart, tion) seminar organized as part of DAAD Africa Office celebration of its 40 years of supporting excellence in University Cooperation between Africa and German Universities. Facilitated by DAAD, Ford Foundation and IFP, KDSA.
- 25th – 27th July, 2012. Research Proposal writing workshop at Technical University of Mombasa and supported by DAAD, Kenya National Council of Science & Technology and KDSA

LIST OF PROJECTS/PROGRAMS INITIATED/IMPLEMENTED

Year	Title
2001	Investigation of traditions, taboos and cultural agreements among fishers along the Kenyan coast
2002	Instituting dialogue, cooperation and compromise among stakeholders and instituting infrastructural development within the landing sites along the Kenyan coast (a 3 year project)
2004	Improving the sanitary conditions within the fish landing sites (a 1 year project)
2004	Improved traditional fish processing methods by smoking and solar drying a joint project with Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute
2004	Provision of appropriate fishing gears to Mvuleni fishers self-help group (a 1 year project registered as 38-6-K-2004/05-02)
2005/6	Working with fishers along the Kenyan coast: an integrative project involving infrastructural development of the landing sites, capacity of the fisher groups and operation of a revolving fund (a 1 year project)
2006	Diani capacity building and networking
2006	Fish marketing research and pilot study
2006	Provision of appropriate fishing gears among local artisanal fishermen to promote self-help while addressing resource-use management for sustainable development
2006	Fishing infrastructural development at selected landing sites
2006	Mariculture as a sustainable livelihood enhancement and diversification initiative for artisanal fishers along the Kenyan coast
2006	Small and medium enterprises development for artisanal fisher communities
2006	Continuation of improved fish processing by smoking and solar drying for food security and environmental conservation a joint project with Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI).
2007	Alternative livelihood programmes targeting groups within Msabweni District
2007	Capacity Building and development of groups
2007	Environmental education for sustainable development in schools and surrounding communities: an amalgamation of Eco Clubs and Eco Schools
2007	Environmental education
2007	Munje community income generating and livelihood improvement project
2007	Gazi Community income generating and livelihood development project
2007	Education and outreach for sustainable Indian Ocean project -Kenya
2007	Munje community income generating and livelihood improvement project
2007	Gazi marine fisheries development and livelihood improvement project
2007	Integrated community-based marine fisheries management program
2008	Integrated sustainable artisanal marine fisheries management program (ISMP) and community support initiative along the Kenyan south coast
2008/9	Integrated indigenous and modern fish processing and marketing in Tana Delta District - Kenya
2009	Phase II of integrated sustainable artisanal marine fisheries management program (ISMP) and community support initiative along the Kenya south coast
2010	Continuation of phase II of integrated sustainable artisanal marine fisheries management program (ISMP) and community support initiative along the Kenya south coast
2011/12	Elewa Katiba Mashinani in Kilifi County - a project meant to assist instill governance understanding and devolution
2012	Maji ni Uzima Project – Targeting simple water harvesting technologies by Schools
2013	Reducing Lead Poisoning within Urban informal settlements in Mombasa town
2013/14	Munje Fisheries and Community Infrastructural Project – Inclined to improving fish handling, storage and marketing

PERSONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Lead Expert with NEMA (National Environment Management Authority) registration number 2538.

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Wide experience with various software like, Microsoft office (word, excel, PowerPoint, outlook, explorer, access, binder), Linux systems, star office (from Sun Microsystems), Lotus SmartSuite and Adobe acrobat.
- Some of the specialized scientific software that I am accustomed to are, Stella research, Fisat, Statistics, Coral draw, Photoshop, Primer among others.

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND METHODOLOGICAL TOOLS

- Professional experience at international level in small-scale fisheries and natural resource management
- Project/personal management and organizational development expertise
- Ability to manage multiple projects concurrently and attain set targets
- Experience in networking with ministry-level partners, donors, private sector, civil societies, and international, national and community-based organizations
- Experienced in Project Cycle Management
- Experienced in project monitoring and evaluation
- Abreast with participatory methods of planning and appraisal (PRA and RRA)
- Experience in staff motivation, appraisal and improvement tools

ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Ability to coordinate complex projects on international level as well as small scale projects at a local level
- Immense knowledge in assisting institutions grow
- Capability to provide strategic guidance

SOCIAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Excellent networking skills; building relationships across a wide range of institutions/organizations at all levels
- Proven management skills, especially in participatory leadership
- Experience in supervising, guiding and motivating colleagues and building local capacity
- Ability to identify and participate in resolution of conflicts
- Good team player, has headed several multi-cultural and interdisciplinary teams and groups
- Able to adjust to new environments and relevant experience in working at a high professional level with people of different cultures
- Hardworking, dedicated, result oriented and with excellent communication skills
- Highly informed, and continuously updating skills related to sustainable development issues and other environmental emerging issues.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Avid reader-Scientific developments, outreach missions like public education and related missions, writing, nature exploration, game and bird watching.

Referees

1. Prof. Dr. Gotthilf Hempel,
Christian-Albrechts-Universitaet zu Kiel,
P. O. Box 24148. Tel. (Secretary) +49 431 600 1200. Kiel – Germany.

Email: ghempel@ipoe.uni-kiel.de

2. Prof. J. Ntiba,

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries Development – Government of Kenya.

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3. Mr. Dixon Waruinge,

Program Officer, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions) -
United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP),

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