

NAME: JOHN ANGORO FESTUS OBIRI

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1. PERSONAL DETAILS Male, Married, Kenyan

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, Dept of Disaster Management & Sustainable Development - Centre for Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance
P. O. Box 190– 50100, Kakamega Kenya.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

A professional with over three decades of experiences in the management of research and development interventions. Been involved in leadership and coordination of natural resources, conflict and disaster management, environmental management systems (e.g. EIA, EA, & SEA), sustainable development and multi-lateral development partnerships. Selected achievements include:

- **Developed and successfully implemented multiple environmental and land conservation research programmes in Eastern and Southern Africa** concerning the areas of natural resource management, restoration of degraded forest landscapes in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Uganda and South Africa.
- **Leader of International Multilateral Institutional Networks.** Currently Co-Investigator in the two international multi-institutional projects on (1) Building Research Capacity for sustainable water and food security In sub-saharan Africa (BRECCIA) <http://www.gcrf-breccia.com/> and (2) Resilience of Traditional Structures in Madagascar to Cyclone in a Changing Climate (RC3). Also been involved in research networks for mentorship of Early Career Researchers, development of innovative research concepts and, fund mobilisation.
- **Consulted on numerous Government and Non-Governmental Projects** in the areas of Natural Resource Management, Conflict and Disaster Risk Management, Sustainable Development, Environmental Impact Assessment, Environmental Audit, Strategic Environmental and Social Management, Forestry and agricultural Resource Economics in South Africa, Tanzania Uganda & Kenya.
- **Been involved in leadership and management** of departments in governmental research institute (e.g. Kenya Forestry Research Institute -KEFRI) and university institutions in Kenya, UK, Tanzania & South Africa
- **Trained and Practising Auditor in ISO 9001/2015** international quality management standards. Audited various tertiary institutes department on quality management of human resource, academic procedures, finances and procurement.
- **Lead Expert of Environmental Impact Assessment and Audits** accredited by NEMA and Environmental Institute of Kenya
- **Published over 30 editorials** in various global journals on environmental management, conflict and disaster risk studies and forestry.

- **Written book chapters, case studies and reports** on several topical issues touching on environmental and natural resource based conflicts, conservation, ecology and resource management in Africa
- **Editor and Reviewer** of various university books, international proceedings of conferences, symposium, journals and technical reports
- **Professor of natural resource management with interests in conflict and disaster risk management.** Holds university teaching experiences in four countries - South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya the United Kingdom

2. EDUCATION BACKGROUND

University of Wales, Bangor (UK)	Post-Doctoral	2002-2003
University of Natal (PMB-South Africa)	Ph.D	1998-2002
University of Natal (PMB-South Africa)	MSc.	1996-1997
University of Natal (Durban-South Africa)	BSc. Biotechnology (Hons)	1995
University of Nairobi (Kenya)	BSc. Botany (Hons)	1985-88

3. PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS & TRAINING WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS

- 5 G-The path to the Next Generation - Training by GSMA (Global System for Mobile Communications) & the United Kingdom Telecommunication Academy - June 2020
- Training on Open Data Kit (ODK toolkit) - Software toolkit for open-source data collecting, managing, in resource-constrained environments. December 2019. Training by Global Challenge Research Fund - University of Southampton.
- Certificate on Research to translation training. LASER PULSE Training organised by USAID and Purdue University, Indiana USA, October 2019
- Certificate on Gender Analysis in Research and Application. LASER PULSE Training organised by USAID and Purdue University, Indiana USA, October 2019
- Training of Instructors on Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (Eco-DRR/CCA). Training by UNEP and European Commission. October 2019. Nairobi, Kenya.
- Training on Research Management and Grants Mobilization. Training by the Southern Africa Research Innovation and Management Association - June 2019, Nairobi, Kenya
- Conflict, Climate Change, and Disruptions in Food and Water Systems UNDP-GCRF Workshop. October 2018, New York, US.

4. EMPLOYMENT / EXPERIENCE RECORD

**a) Masinde Muliro University of Science & Technology (MMUST)
[2008 to date.]**

- Director; Directorate of Postgraduate Studies. [2017 to date]
- Chairman, Department of Disaster Management & Sustainable Development - DMSD [2014 to April 2017].
- ODEL Instructor
- Chairman, Departmental Graduate Studies Committee of DMSD [2012 to 2014]
- Departmental Quality Management Officer: [2012 to 2013]
- Board Member - School of Graduate Studies: [2010 to 2011]
- Faculty Examination Officer - CDMHA [2009 to 2011]

b) Nature and Development Africa [Kenya] –[2006 to 2007]

- Director, Research and Programs

c) University of Wales, Bangor [United Kingdom] - [2002 to 2006]

- Postdoctoral Research 2002-2003
- Research Fellow, Department of Forestry – School of Agriculture & Forestry Sciences 2003-2006

c) University of Natal, Centre of Environment & Development [South Africa]

- Programme Co-ordinator 1997

d) Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI)

- Research Officer - 1988 - 1996

4. CURRENT AWARDS WON

(i) The Royal Society and Resilient Futures Challenge-led Grants award. Joint award winner (2019-2021) with Scientists from University of Edinburgh and Conservation International (Madagascar) on a project titled '*Resilience of Traditional Structures in Madagascar to Cyclones in a Changing Climate (RC3)*'.

(ii) Global Challenge Research Fund of the Research Councils of UK award winner for (2017-2020). Project title: *Building Research Capacity for Sustainable Water and Food Security in Drylands of Sub-Saharan Africa (BRECcIA)*

(ii) Newton - Utafiti Fund - Trilateral Researchers Linkage award winner 2017. A British Council award that enhances research capacity and linkages between MMUST, University of Southampton (UK) and Vaal University of Technology (South Africa).

5. TEACHING & UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES - I teach core courses that include: *Natural Resource Management, Environment Impact Assessment and Audit, Environmental Health Water & Sanitation, Conflict and Disaster management, Biodiversity & ecology, Environmental Restoration, Environmental Assessment, Research Methods & Seminar, Disaster Risk Reduction & Institutional Frameworks, Disaster Theory and Practice, Environmental Pollution and Control and Community Development*

Student supervised and graduated over 30 PhD and Masters degree students

(b) MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Director, Directorate of Postgraduate Studies - From May 2017 to date
- MMUST Webometrics Advisory Committee - From 2018 to date
- Member Corruption Prevention Committee
- Board Member of the following University Directorates - From 2015 to date
 - Directorate of Research and Postgraduate Support
 - Directorate of International Relations and Linkages
 - Centre of Kakamega Tropical Forest Studies
- SENATE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - From 2014 to date
 - Graduation Planning Committee
 - Funding and Prices Committee
- DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE
 - Chairman: - Examination Appeals / Disciplinary Committee
- UNIVERSITY CREATION STEERING COMMITTEES
 - Turkana University College 2016-2017
 - Kaimosi University College 2013-2014

6. PROFESSIONAL BODY REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

- a) Environmental Institute of Kenya (EIK)
- b) National Environmental Management Authority of Kenya (NEMA). Registered and accredited Lead Expert in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA)
- c) Association of Disaster Management and Conflict Resolution of Kenya (ADMCRK)
- d) Adaptability – Climate Adaption Network
- e) Kenya Forestry Society
- f) Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK)
- g) British Ecological Society (BES)

7. PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS

- a) Expert Reviewer in the United Kingdom National Commission for UNESCO committee for reviewing global proposals for Newton Prize funding.
- b) Reviewer for the following Journals - FORECO, Arid Ecology, Disaster Risk Studies, Global Change Biology amongst others

8. BOOKS EDITED

1. **OBIRI J. F.**, DRIVER M.F., ONYEKWELU J., AKPOKO J., RAMASAMWY B. and YAYE A., *Agricultural Risk Management in Africa – A contextualised manual for tertiary institutions and development practitioners* 2017. ANAFE Publisher, Nairobi; pp 327. ISBN 9290594047
2. **OBIRI J.F.**, DRIVER M.F., ONYEKWELU J., RAMASAMWY B. and AKPOKO J.G AND YAYE A. 2017. *Agribusiness in Africa – A contextualised manual for tertiary institutions and development*, ANAFE Publishers, pp 204. ISBN 9290594039.
3. **OBIRI J.F.**, KASOLO W., YAYE A., MWAZEMBA J., OCHOLA, A. and CHAKEREDZA S. *Agribusiness development and Managing Risk and Uncertainty in African Agriculture: The role of Tertiary Agricultural Education*. ANAFE Symposium held from 25-28 August 2014 in Yaounde Cameroon. Pp 485.
4. NYAWALA, A., ONYANGO, M. KABONGA, G., WEPUNDI M. and **OBIRI J.** (2011). *In The Invisible Violence: An opportunity of Peace Building. A Case Study of Nyanza, Rift Valley and Western Province* pp 136-156. Konrad Adenauer-Stiftung. Nairobi.

9. BOOK CHAPTERS PUBLISHED

1. **OBIRI J.**, DRIVER F. & YAYÉ A.D. **2015**. Agricultural Risk Management: Introduction. In *Agricultural Risk Management in Africa*. Pp 1-15. Association for Agricultural Sciences (AISA) Publishers [ISBN 978-2-9551688-0-6].
2. **OBIRI, J.** and NYAMAI, D. **2015**. Environmental Services in Agroforestry Systems under changing climatic conditions. In *Agricultural Risk Management in Africa*. Pp 1-15. Association for Agricultural Sciences Publishers [ISBN 978-2-9551688-0-6].
3. OBADINA A., MUGALAVAI, E. **OBIRI, J.**, LATEEFAH O. and IFEOLUWA, O. **2015**. Vulnerability of fresh-cut vegetables and ornamental plants to climate change. In *Agricultural Risk Management in Africa*. Pp 1-15. Association for Agricultural Sciences (AISA) Publishers [ISBN 978-2-9551688-0-6].
4. TAIWO M., AUCHA, J., THOMPSON, N., CHIMBOMBI, E. and **OBIRI J.** **2015** Setting up an agribusiness in Africa . In *Agribusiness in Africa*. Pp 1-20. Association for Agricultural Sciences (AISA) Publishers [ISBN 978-2-9551688-0-6].
5. **OBIRI, J.** & WEPUNDI, M. **2011**. The invisible violence of Western Kenya. In *The Invisible Violence: An opportunity of Peace Building. A Case Study of Nyanza, Rift Valley and Western Province* pp 136-156. Konrad Adenauer-Stiftung. Nairobi.
6. **OBIRI, J.**, HEALEY, J. & HALL, J. **2010**. Composition, structure and regeneration of Miombo Forest at Kitulangalo, Tanzania. 109-122. In *Degraded Forests in Eastern Africa-management and restoration* (Eds.) Bongers, F. And Tenningkeit T. Earthscan Publishing. London; pp109-122.
7. **OBIRI, J.**, HEALEY, J. & HALL, J. **2010**. Degradation, species invasion and management responsibility in Tanzanian dry forests. In *Degraded Forests in Eastern*

Africa-management and restoration (Eds.) Bongers, F. And Tenningkeit T. Earthscan Publishing. London; pp 305-322.1

10. REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES PUBLISHED

1. VOLLENZO, T.E., ODIYO, J.O. and **OBIRI, J.**, 2019. Greenhouse gas emissions as sustainability indicators in agricultural sectors' adaptation to climate change: Policy implications', *Jàmhá: Journal of Disaster Risk Studies* 11(1), a576.
<https://doi.org/10.4102/jamba.v11i1.576>
 2. ADHIAMBO R., MUYEKHO, F., CREED, I., ENANGA, E., SHIVOGA, W., TRICK, C. and **OBIRI, J.** 2019. Managing the invasion of guava trees to enhance carbon storage in tropical. Forests. *Forest Ecology and Management* 432 (2019) 623–630
 3. NAMENYA D., OBIRI, J.F. and MUGALAVAI E.M. 2018. Households' Perceptions on Rural Watershed Governance and Food Security in the Lower Sio River Watershed, Busia County, Kenya *International Journal of Agriculture and Environmental Research*. 4 (4): 952-976.
 4. NAMENYA D., MUGALAVAI E.M. and **OBIRI, J.F.** 2018. Determinants of Watershed Governance and Food Security among Households in the Lower Sio River Watershed, Busia County, Kenya. *International Journal of Agriculture, Environment and Bioresearch* 3(5): 184-209
 5. KEMBOI, G, **OBIRI, J** and MUTAI, C. 2018. Knowledge, Attitudes and Socio-Cultural Practices that Influence the Control of Cervical Cancer among Women in Uasin Gishu County, Kenya. *International Journal of Social Science and Humanities Research* 6 (3): 553-562.
 6. KEMBOI, G, **OBIRI, J** and MUTAI, C. 2018. Awareness of cervical cancer among women in Uasin Gishu County, Kenya. *International Journal of Sciences: Basic and Applied Research*, 41,(1): 167-180.
- RAMKAT, R., **OBIRI, J. F** and CHINA, S.S, 2017. Mines and Differential Environmental Degradation in Kakamega County, Kenya 2017. *The International Journal of Humanities and Social Studies*. Vol 5(9):169-173
7. ONGEKO, K.O., **OBIRI, J.F.** and MUGALAVAI, E. (2017) Farmers Awareness, Knowledge and Risk Perception of Climate Change in Homa Bay County, Kenya. *The International Journal Of Science & Technoledge* 5 (5): 109-116.
 8. LOLEMTUM, J., **OBIRI, J.F.** and MUGALAVAI, E. (2017). Impact of Drought on Food Security in West Pokot County, Kenya *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, 7(6), 742-750
 9. ONGEKO, K.O., MUGALAVAI, E.; and **OBIRI, J.F.** (2017). Evaluation of Community Adaptation to Climate Change in Homa Bay County, Kenya. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications* 7(8):680-688.
 10. ORORA, C.N., OBIRI, J. and OMBACHI, N. K. 2017. Health Seeking Behaviour

- Determinants among Caregivers of Children Facing Diarrhoea in Homabay County, Kenya. *International Journal of Social Science and Humanities Research* 5 (3):223-236.
11. RAKAMA S.O, **OBIRI, J.F.**, and MUGALAVAI, E.M. (2017). Evaluation of land use change pattern of Kajulu-Riat hill peri-urban area near Kisumu City, Kenya. *International Journal of Scientific Research and Innovative Technology*. 4(7), 42-52.
 12. RAKAMA, S.O., MUGALAVAI E.M. and **OBIRI, J. F.** (2017). An Evaluation of Conservation Strategies on Plant Biodiversity in a Peri-Urban Set-Up of Kajulu-Riat Hill, Kisumu City, Kenya *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, 7(7):452-462.
 13. KAWAWA, R. **OBIRI, J.** and MUYEKHO, F. (2016). Allelopathic potential of invasive *Psidium guajava* L., against selected native tree species in Kakamega Tropical Forest, Western Kenya. *Journal of Pharmacy and Biological Sciences* 11(5):80-86
 14. OGECHA, P., **OBIRI, J.** and WAKHUNGU, J. 2016. Households' Water Uses from the Established Water Conservation Projects in Kitui County, Kenya. *International Journal of Thesis Projects and Dissertations* 4(3):60-70
 15. OGECHA, P., WAKHUNGU, J. and **OBIRI, J.** 2016. Established Water Conservation Projects in Kitui County, Kenya. *International Journal of Thesis Projects and Dissertations* 4(3):71-82.
 16. KAWAWA R. C. A., **OBIRI J. F.**, MUYEKHO F. N., OMayio, D., AGEVI, H., MWAURA, A., OBIET, L. KIMUTAI, D. and SIFUNA, A.(2016). The role of *Psidium guajava* l., seed bank as a strategy for its successful invasion of Kakamega rainforest, western Kenya. *Asian Journal of Basic and Applied Sciences*, 3 (2):1-6
 17. WABWOBA, M., WAKHUNGU, J.W., **OBIRI, J.** and LWEVO, E. (2015). Household Potential in Improving Food Security in Bungoma County, Kenya. *Journal of International Academic Research for Multidisciplinary*, 3(7):338-348.
 18. KEFA, N; WAKHUNGU, J. & **OBIRI, J.** (2015) Environmental Hazards In Peri-Urban Poultry Farming In Western Kenya *Asian Journal of Basic and Applied Sciences* 2(2) 74-83.
 19. KEFA, N; WAKHUNGU, J. and **OBIRI, J.** (2015) Manure Management Risks and Ownership of Peri-Urban Poultry Enterprises in Western Kenya *International Journal of Science and Research* 5 (1); 655-662.
 20. NGETICH J.K, OPATA, G.P., MWASI B, **OBIRI J.A.F.** and MELI J.K., (2015). Policies and strategies for tackling informal settlements: Lessons for Kenya. *Journal of Emerging Trends in Economics and Management Science*; 6(2):130-136.
 21. LUTTA V.O and **OBIRI J.** 2015. Cyber Crime a Rising Threat for Internet - Based Businesses in Western Region, Kenya *International Journal of Scientific & Engineering Research*, 6(3), Pgs 317-377.

22. KORIR G. K and **OBIRI, J** 2015. The media's fundamental role of shaping environmentalism agenda. *International Journal of Advancements in Research & Technology*, 4 (2) pgs 87-99
23. SINGORO B., WAKHUNGU J., OBIRI, J and WERE, E. 2014. Causes and trends of public transport motorcycle accidents in Bungoma County. *Journal of Multidisciplinary Academic Research* 4 (1)
24. NYANDIKO, N.O., **OBIRI, J. F** and CHINA, S.S, 2013: Disaster risk reduction under Kenya's new Constitution. *A paper presented during International Disaster risk reduction and conflict Resolution conference held at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology* from 25th to 28th July 2012.
25. **OBIRI J.** and KIOKO, **J.** 2013. Household attitudes and knowledge on drinking water enhance water hazards In Peri-Urban communities in Western Kenya. *Journal of Disaster Risk Studies*,
26. **OBIRI, J.** 2011. Invading Acacias: an impending disaster in Mt Elgon Forest ecosystem. *International Journal of Disaster Management and Risk Reduction*, 3(3) 59-65.
27. **OBIRI J.** 2011. Invasive plants species and their disaster effects in dry tropical forests and rangelands of Kenya and Tanzania. *Journal of Disaster Risk Studies*,3(2) 417-428
28. **OBIRI, J.** & LAWES, M. 2004. Chance versus determinism in canopy gap regeneration in coastal scarp forest in South Africa. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 15: 539-547.
29. LAWES, M. & **OBIRI, J.** (2003). Using the spatial grain of regeneration to select harvestable tree species in subtropical forest. *Forest Ecology and management* 184:105-114.
30. LAWES, M. & **OBIRI, J.** (2003). Canopy gaps in sub-tropical forest: species richness is limited by size of the species pool and not by the number of available niches. *Journal of Tropical Ecology* 19: 549-556.
31. **OBIRI, J.** & LAWES, M. 2004. Community attitudes and perceptions toward conservation. In *The Use and Socio-economic Value of Indigenous Forests and Woodlands Resources in South Africa*. (M.J. Lawes, H.A.C. Eeley, C. Shackleton & B. Geach eds.) University of Natal Press.
32. **OBIRI, J.** & LAWES, M. 2002. Challenges and conflicts facing new forest policies in South Africa: Attitudes of forest users towards management of the coastal forests of Eastern Cape Province. *Environmental Conservation* 29 (4) 519-529.

33. **OBIRI, J., LAWES, M. & MUKOLWE, M.** 2002. The dynamics and sustainable use of high-value tree species of the coastal Pondoland forests of the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. *Forest Ecology and Management* 166:131-148.
34. **OBIRI, J. & LAWES, M.** 2000. The sustainable use of timber and non-timber forest products: a case study of Umzimvubu District, Pondoland, South Africa. In: Seydack A., Vermeulen W and Vermeulen C. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 2nd southern Africa symposium towards sustainable management based on scientific understanding of forests and woodland, September 1999*. pp. 322-331. Knysna, Department of Water Affairs and Forestry.
35. **OBIRI, J. ADDO, P. LEWIS, F. ADDAI-POKU, K.** 1996. Conflicts of the environment, jobs and labour unions *Track*: Oct/Nov Issue 1996.
36. **OBIRI J. GIATHI, G. & MASSAWE** 1994. The effect of Cypress aphid pest on cypress tree orchards in Kenya and Tanzania. *East African Agricultural and Forestry Journal* Vol.59 (3): 227-234.
37. **OBIRI, J.** 1994. Variation of the Cypress aphid pest attack on the cypress trees in East Africa. *Commonwealth Forestry Review* Vol.73 (232): 43-46.
38. **MWANZA E. & OBIRI, J.** 1993. Performances of *Pinus caribaea* after inoculation with mycorrhizal fungi. *East African Agriculture and Forestry Journal* Vol.59:1-10.

11. EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

External examiner for the following universities:

1. Department of Nature Resource Management, Egerton University, Kenya
2. Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Sokoine University, Tanzania
3. Department of Botany and Zoology - Stellenbosch University - South Africa