

## **ADDRESSES**

### **DAY ONE**

#### **CHIEF GUEST**



**Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi**

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## **Governor -Kakamega County**

**Dr Pamela Sitienei**  
**Chairperson of Council**



**Prof. Solomon I. Shibairo**  
**Vice Chancellor- MMUST**



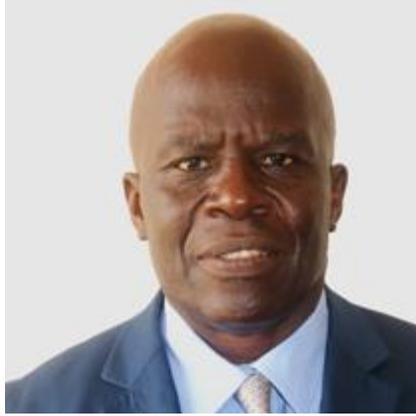
**Prof. Charles Mutai**  
**DVC Planning, Research and Innovation- MMUST**



**Prof. Hussein S. A. Golicha**  
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics & Students Affairs)



**Prof. John Kuria Thuo**  
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration & Finance)



**Prof. Peter Bukhala**

**Director, Research and Postgraduate Support**

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## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

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HE GEORGE NATEMBEYA -GOVERNOR TRANSNZOIA COUNTY, KENYA

**TOPIC:** CLIMATE CHANGE, SECURITY AND GOVERNANCE

George Natembeya is the current governor for Trans Nzoia county. Natembeya worked in the public service sector for more than twenty-five years before his resignation seeking an elective post. He attended the Kenya School of Government before enrolling for his Anthropology undergraduate degree in the University of Nairobi. He also holds a Master's degree in Anthropology from the University of Nairobi

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DR. JAMES MWANGI - CEO EQUITY BANK

**TOPIC:** FINANCING CLIMATE CHANGE

## GUEST SPEAKERS

DAY ONE



**Prof. Josephine Khaoma. W. Ngaira.** (PhD, FKNAS, IGU, Sigma Xi), **Professor of Geography (Physical geography Climatology).** Fellow and Treasurer, Kenya National Academy of Sciences.

Orchid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0135-7880>,

RG [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Josephine\\_Ngaira](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Josephine_Ngaira),

Winner, Scientist of the Year Award 2021 in Climatology, Co-ordinator, International Geographic Union, Kenya Chapter, Founding Member, UNESCO's Geo diversity day (celebrated every 6<sup>th</sup> October), Member, NASAC- Women for Science working group, Expert author on IAP project "Climate Change and Health in Africa". Prof Ngaira

presented an Ignite lecture on "burning earth" during the 5<sup>th</sup> World Science Forum" held in Cape Town SA in 2022. She represented Africa as an Expert Climate Change panelist at the 22nd United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development in Geneva, Switzerland. She was an Expert Reviewer with the 5<sup>th</sup> IPCC Assessment Report. She has delivered fifteen (15) invited keynote lectures on climate change, Water and environmental science, locally and internationally. Prof Ngaira served as Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academics and Student Affairs, MMUST, Dean School of Environment and Earth Sciences and Head of Geography department at Maseno University. She has over 63 publications, which have been cited over 500 times by reputable scientists. She has supervised over 25 postgraduate students. Currently, She is the Chairperson of Professors' Forum and a Professor in the department of Disaster Management and Sustainable Development in MMUST.

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Maj (Dr) Cliff Ooga Obwogi is a Researcher, Trainer and Lecturer in the Disciplines of Peace Support Operations, Media, Peace and Conflict Studies, Conflict/Crisis Management. He has worked in the past years in the Media Industry, the Banking Industry, and currently in the Security Sector. He has published two (2) books and Seven (7) Academic Papers in Internationally Accredited Academic Journals. He holds a Bachelor of Education Arts in English and Literature from Kenyatta University, a Diploma in Military Science from Egerton University, a Master of Arts in

Communication Studies from the University of Nairobi and a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies from Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology. He has vast experience in Media, Peace & Conflict studies and Peace Support Operations. Maj (Dr)

Obwogi is currently working at the International Peace Support Training Centre as a Researcher and also a Lecturer of National Defence University-Kenya.

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**Dr. Meleckidzedek Khayesi** is a teacher by profession. He holds a PhD degree in Transport Geography. He joined the World Health Organization (WHO) in March 2002, after working as a lecturer at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, for 11 years. He is currently based at the Department of Social Determinants of Health at the WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. He facilitates the development, implementation and evaluation of road safety programmes in countries; prepares policy guidance; and supports road safety capacity development. His research focus is on road safety, walking, cycling, public transport and transport policy change. He loves transformative pedagogy and local levelled development change. He greatly supports individuals to nurture their talents to become the best they can be.

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**David Monda** teaches Political Science, American Government and International Affairs at City University of New York. His doctoral training is situated at the intersection of Comparative Politics and International Relations with an emphasis on foreign policy and international migration. His research interests center on solidarity and hospitality in urban migration, transnational migrant communities, securitization of narratives around migration and foreign policies of the Global South. This research has included field work and research in Belize, South Africa, Brazil, Kenya, and Argentina. Outside academia, he enjoys scuba diving, playing soccer, chess, and travel to exotic corners of the earth."

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**Prof. Eng. Emmanuel Chessum Kipkorir PhD, PE, MIEK**, has over twenty years of experience in teaching, research and development in water resources engineering, environmental planning and management. He has consulted for national and international organizations. He has expertise and experience in research in the fields of Water Resources Engineering and Irrigation Engineering and in community participatory projects. He is a

Professor of Civil Engineering, Water Resources Engineering, in Moi University, Kenya. He has served as Dean, School of Engineering, University of Eldoret, and Dean, School of Aerospace Sciences, Moi University, Kenya. He has many years of practical, teaching, and research experience. He has supervised todate a total of 43 MPhil/MSc and 12 PhD postgraduate student thesis research and several engineering undergraduate final year projects, has provided mentorship to four (4) Graduate Engineers to Professional Engineers, has individually and with others, published 69 peer review journal papers and several book chapters on a broad range of multi and interdisciplinary issues on irrigation, water resources engineering and environmental planning and management. Participated in several externally funded research projects. He is a Professional Engineer in Civil Engineering, registered with Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK), Cooperate member with Institute of Engineers of Kenya (IEK) and registered as a lead expert EIA/EA with National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA). He is a believer of the system approach of management in executing rules, regulations, procedures and policies set to meet objectives of an organization. His personal mission is to live, learn and leave an enduring legacy in life, mentoring, research and other intellectually creative enterprises.

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**Dr. Christopher Mulanda Aura (PhD)** has a PhD in Bio-resource and Environmental Science from Hokkaido University, Japan; an MSc. in Aquatic Sciences from a collaboration between Linkoping (Sweden) and Moi (Kenya) Universities and a First-Class Honours BSc. Degree in Aquatic Sciences from Moi University. He has worked in the domain of aquatic sciences for 15 years. He is a trained and certified Graduate student Lecturer and scientist under Hokkaido University (Japan) and University of California Berkely (USA). He was awarded an African Union-World Academy of Sciences Award (AU-TWAS) as best Young Scientist globally in Life and Earth Sciences in 2012. He was the Co-Chairman of Kenya Wetland Stakeholders Draft and Regulations Review in 2017-18 for riparian lands' regulations. Currently is the Director, Freshwater Systems Research, Kenya.

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**HE Dr. Wilber Ottichilo-** is the current Governor for Vihiga County, born September 23, 1952 in Emanyinya village, Emusire sub-location, Central Bunyore Ward in

Emuhaya sub-county. Dr Ottichilo attended Makerere University from 1974 to 1977, the University of Nairobi from 1981 to 1983, as well as Colorado State University from 1984-1986. He obtained his doctorate in Natural Resource Management and Space Science from the University of Wageningen International Institute for Earth Observation and Geoinformation in The Netherlands. Prior to becoming the MP for Emuhaya Constituency, Dr Ottichilo was the Director General for Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), an agency of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). He was elected to parliament through a by-election after the Emuhaya Constituency seat in the Kenyan parliament became vacant, following the election of Kenneth Marende as speaker of the National Assembly.

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**Topic:** Convergence of Indigenous Knowledge Systems and modern science in combatting climate change **Denis Masika** is a Lecturer in the Department of Geography and Natural Resources Management at Maseno University. He holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Science from Maseno University and a Master of Science (Hydrology) from the University of Nairobi. He has over ten years of experience in teaching, research, and development in water resources management. His research interest is in water resources management, policy, and governance, assessment of water resources, hydraulic and hydrological modeling for evidence-based decision-making, climate change, and community engagement. He has consulted widely in water resource management programs and gained extensive experience in stakeholders' and community participation in natural resource management. He has participated in a number of externally funded research projects. He is a member of the Hydrological Society of Kenya.

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**Edward M. Mugalavai** is a senior lecturer and Chair of the Department of Disaster Management and Sustainable Development of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST). He holds a PhD in Environmental Earth Sciences with over 14 years teaching experience at university level. He has carried out extensive research on environmental issues biased to Climatology, Climate Variability, Climate Change and Food Security, and Disaster Risk Reduction. He has successfully participated in funded local and external research projects. He has to date supervised a total of 10 MSc. and 4 PhD postgraduate student thesis research and several

undergraduate final year projects. He is a licensed Lead Expert in Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental Audit (EA) with the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Kenya and has been involved in numerous consultancies including World Bank funded projects in western Kenya. He is also a member of the Environmental Institute of Kenya (EIK) and the Association of Disaster Management and Conflict Resolution of Kenya (ADMCRK). His current focus is to engage more in actionable research that empowers communities to solve local problems collaboratively using indigenous solutions.

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**Arran Stibbe** is a Professor of Ecological Linguistics at the University of Gloucestershire. He has an academic background in both linguistics and human ecology and combines the two in his research and teaching. He is the founder of the International Ecolinguistics Association, and is author of *Ecolinguistics: language, ecology and the stories we live by* (Routledge) and *Econarrative: ethics, ecology and the search for new narratives to live by* (Bloomsbury). He was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship by the Higher Education Academy for teaching excellence, and has published widely on ecolinguistics.

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**Dr. Chris Wasike** obtained his bachelor and masters degrees literature from University of Nairobi and PhD in African literature and Media studies from Wits university, South Africa. He teaches literature, and performing arts in the department of language and literature in the school of arts and social sciences, at Mmust. His interests are in the area of masculinity in performing arts and digital media

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## DAY TWO



**Prof. Franklin Wabwoba**, is a Professor of Information Technology with a PhD in Information Technology from the Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology - Kakamega, Kenya. He has research interest in Green Computing,

Information Technology and impact on society, Data Analytics, Internet of Things, Informatics and Computer Forensics among others ([https:// https://scai.kibu.ac.ke/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Prof.-Franklin-Wabwoba-CURRICULUM-VITAE-October-2021.pdf](https://scai.kibu.ac.ke/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Prof.-Franklin-Wabwoba-CURRICULUM-VITAE-October-2021.pdf)). He has authored and coauthored many published over a hundred book chapters and articles in peer reviewed journals. He has served as dean – School of Computing and Informatics and Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics and Students Affairs) at Kibabii University. He has also served as a member of the “Think Tank” on University Education at the State Department for University Education in the ministry. Further, he is a peer review with the Commission for University Education (Kenya) and the Inter University Council of East Africa. He started his career as an Assistant Lecturer in 1992 and rose to be Assistant Registrar at Eldoret National Polytechnic. Afterwards he worked at Friends School, Kamusinga and Mumias Sugar Company. Later in 2007, he joined Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology as Assistant Lecturer and Kibabii University as Lecturer and rising to Professor of Information Technology in 2021. He is the first vice chairman of the Association of Computing Practitioners – Kenya. He has trained and supervised postgraduate students in Kenya, South Africa and France. He has given keynote speeches in The annual ICT and Engineering Summit 21st August, 2019 at ICS college Eldoret Campus (Wabwoba (2019) Accelerating digital innovation and emerging trends in ICT and Engineering among college students) and The Inter-Disciplinary International Conference on 19th – 21st June, 2019 at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (Wabwoba (2019) ICT Innovations, Renewable Energy, Gender and Nano- Technologies for Sustainable Development).

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**Mr. Byron ANANGWE** is an individual passionate about developing solutions and applications in the Geo-ICT (Geo-Information Communication Technologies) sector towards the sustainable development of Africa. He is a keen advocate of engaging with communities to increase impacts-positive of Geo-ICT projects and initiatives. Byron has 25 years of experience in the application of Earth Observation (EO) & Geo-Information Sciences (GIS) in Sub Sahara Africa (SSA). His areas of interest are associated with application, training and policy development in thematic areas Agriculture, Blue Economy, Environment, Climate Adaptation, Land Management, Health and Natural Resource Management. Byron is an alumnus of Manchester Metropolitan University – UK. He serves as an advisor to government and private sector on matters relating to harnessing the Space Economy/Environment for National Development. He presently serves as the Business Development Manager at Esri Eastern Africa ([www.esriea.com](http://www.esriea.com)).

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**Dr. Tom Musili** is the founder, Director of Computers for schools Kenya. Dr. Musili is a Chartered Certified Accountant by profession with wide training and experience in management and public administration. Prior to establishing CFSK, Tom was the Managing Director of Media Technology Resources Ltd



**Dr Akali Ngaywa Moses** is a widely experienced disaster preparedness and environmental modelling expert. As a scholar and researcher, Akali has disseminated research findings and conducted simulations in society, contributing to knowledge generation and transmission. He has published extensively in high-impact journals, including the International Journal of Civil Engineering and Technology and the Journal of Remote Sensing and GIS. Akali has been involved in public-spirited activities as a team player and leader on mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in integrated planning to support devolution and foster sustainable development. Professionally, he stems his metier from research, knowledge generation, environmental modelling and leadership. He commits to generation of spatial data and information as a decision making tool to mitigate land degradation and disaster risk, environment and climate change impact.



**Dr. Patricia Mwangi** is a Geospatial Engineer with over ten years working experience. She graduated from Nairobi University with a Bachelor's degree in Geospatial Engineering and proceeded to University of Florence, Italy, to pursue a Master's degree in Geometrics & Natural Resources Evaluation. She recently completed her PhD from Kenyatta University and the focus of her research was modelling the spatial relationship between built-up volume densities and surface urban heat islands. She currently lectures at Kenyatta University in the department of Spatial and Environmental Planning. Her current research interests are related to urbanization issues, land use and land cover changes and their effects on changing climate.

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**James Metto** holds a Master of Science degree in Environmental Legislation and Management from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the University of Nairobi. James is a Climate Change Expert, with over 21 years Industry experience covering implementation of Climate Change projects in the Energy Sector, Management Systems Certification across the East and Central African region and process improvement activities. His Specialties include Implementation of Climate Change Projects comprising of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Voluntary Carbon Standards (VCS), Gold Standard (GS) Projects, Process Improvement and Root Cause Analysis. James has practical experience in Validation and Verification of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Voluntary Carbon Standards (VCS) and Gold Standard (GS) Projects in East and Central Africa. James has also participated in the Carbon Markets negotiations at the UN Climate Change Conferences.

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Josiah L Munda holds a DEng degree (2002) in electrical engineering from the University of the Ryukyus. He worked in Kenya from 1992 to 2004, before joining Tshwane University of Technology (South Africa) where

he is currently a professor of electrical engineering. He has served in various positions that he has served in include Director: Centre for Energy and Electric Power, Head of Department, Associate Dean: Postgraduate Studies, Research & Innovation, and acting Executive Dean. He has authored and co-authored more than 225 articles in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters and international conference proceedings. His main research interests include power systems analysis, distributed generation, green energy systems, energy efficiency, demand-side management, microgrids and intelligent control. He is a Professional Engineer (EBK and ECSA) and a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE).

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**Prof Mary Abukutsa** is a distinguished scientist that has conducted pioneering research in African indigenous vegetables. Her work has had a tremendous impact on the utilization of indigenous vegetables in Africa and has led to her receipt of numerous, well-deserved awards including CTA, IMPRESSA, Presidential, and Africa Union awards and Edinburgh medal. Her work has inspired students, young researchers and influenced governments to consider the importance of indigenous vegetables for nutrition, health and income generation. Her passion, coupled with her careful scientific multi-disciplinary research, have repositioned indigenous vegetables from a poor man's crop to internationally recognized super vegetables. She holds a BSc (Agriculture), MSc (Agronomy) and PhD (Horticultural Plant Physiology and Nutrition). She currently serves as a Professor of Horticulture at JKUAT and formerly, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Production and Extension). She released 9 varieties of African indigenous vegetables through KEPHIS in 2016. She is an active member of Kenya National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and Governing Council member of AAS. She has supervised over 80 undergraduate and postgraduate projects and is widely published, she has excellent experience in Agricultural Research, Leadership and Mentoring.

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**Kiprono Langat is PhD** student at Kenyatta University doing security studies. Holds a Master degree in Leadership and Security Management from Kenyatta University and Bachelor of Education Arts from Laikipia University. He is a seasoned police

officer and has a zeal on environmental matters. He always views security management from an environmental perspective. He has done concepts on application of environment to solve endemic problems in Northern Kenya and parts of Eastern Region. Currently he is spearheading environmental programmes for restoration of Mid-river Yala Ecosystem. He is also championing distribution of tree seedlings to communities with Western Region.

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**Prof. Johanna Jacobi** is an Assistant Professor for Agroecological Transitions at ETH Zürich. She studied Geography, Biology and Social Anthropology. Her master thesis investigated wastewater-irrigated agrobiodiversity in peri-urban agriculture in Hyderabad, India. For her PhD studies at the University of Bern, she conducted research on the resilience of cocoa farms in Bolivia to climate change. In a post-doctoral project with Miguel Altieri at UC Berkeley, she focused on agroforestry in Bolivia, where she then lived and worked in a transdisciplinary action- research project for several years. Her research focuses on agroecology as a transformative science, a practice and a social movement, and on power relations in food systems with a approaches and methods from political ecology. Johanna Jacobi is also a member of the Latin American Scientific Society of Agroecology (SOCLA).

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### DAY THREE



**Mr. James Tarus** is pursuing PhD in Natural Resources Management, Egerton University, Kenya. MSc, Climate Change, University of Nairobi, Kenya, MSc, Natural Resources Management, Egerton University, Kenya BSc. Forestry Second Class Hons (Upper Division), Moi University, Kenya He is heading the Climate Change and Forest Convention Unit at the Kenya Forest Service. He provides expert technical leadership in implementing climate change strategies and interventions aimed at the sustainable management of forestry resources in Kenya. Other responsibilities include; Focal Point- Kenya's Forest and Landscape Restoration and membership to; Kenya's Green House Gas Inventory (GHG) and REDD+ teams. UNFCCC expert on AFULO, REDD+ and Article 6, Forest Carbon Innovations Working Group (Verified Carbon

Standard(VERRA)) and Technical Advisory Group, Technical Review Committee (Plan Vivo Standard) and National Vice Chair of Forestry Society of Kenya

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**Prof. Dr. Onesmus Ayaya BCom(Hons), MBA, PhD, CGMA.** Is a qualified financial expert from South Africa with 33 years of professional experience, of which 19 years are in higher education and research. He holds a Master of Business and Administration degree (finance) and a PhD from the University of Pretoria. Onesmus also holds professional certifications with the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (United Kingdom). Onesmus has to his credit 20 peer-refereed journal articles. Outside teaching and research, Onesmus has held public finance management technical advisory roles with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the European Union and the GIZ. Currently, Onesmus is a public finance and accounting professor at the University of Limpopo.

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**Rongedzayi Fambasayi** is a seasoned Child Protection Specialist and Legal and Policy Analyst. He is a Doctoral Researcher at the South African Research Chair in Cities, Law and Environmental Sustainability of the Faculty of Law, North-West University, with a special focus on children's rights, cities, climate change governance and environmental governance. His research interest is dedicated to a critical legal perspective on the interface of children's rights and emerging issues such as climate change law, urban law, digital technologies

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**Prof. Julius Huho** is a Professor of Geography at Garissa University. Prof. Huho holder of Ph.D and Master of Arts in Geography. He has also undertaken many other short courses that focuses on climate change such as IS-ENES<sub>3</sub> Summer School on Climate data use for impact assessments and Certificate in Making Research Work: Solving complex agri-food problems through action research. His expertise in the area of climate change and rural livelihoods where he

has extensively published on climate change impacts as well as coping and adaptation measures adopted particularly in arid and semi-arid (ASAL) environments. His interests lie in promoting resilient rural livelihoods against climate change and he has won a number of grants to carry out research in ASALs. Prof. Huho has served as curriculum development panelist during the development of CBC Social Studies for Junior Secondary schools and Geography for Senior Secondary Schools curriculum designs. Currently, Prof. Huho is the Director in charge of Research, Postgraduate, Linkages and Community Outreach (REPLICO) at Garissa University.

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**Dr Phitalis Were Masakhwe**, is a Disaster Risk Reduction, Disability Rights and Social Development Specialist. He has a physical Disability and currently works as Chief Officer, Risk Management and Service Delivery, Office of the Governor, County Government of Kakamega. He is the author of the book, "the wellbeing of Persons with Disabilities during disasters, a humanitarian Policy Framework Perspective" and "Is inclusion working for physically disabled students in Secondary schools", among others. He has earned a PhD in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance from MMUST and serves on the National Executive committee of the Kenya Redcross Society. Masakhwe has over 24 years of working experience in Civil society Organisations including the United Nations.

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**Dr. Benard Wesonga**—currently works at the Ministry of Health County government of Kakamega. Before then, Benard worked at the School of Medicine, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology. Benard does research in Nutrition and Dietetics, Public Health and Primary Care. Their most recent publication is 'Components, Practices and Benefits of Home Based Care of HIV and AIDS Patients in Kenya: Butula Local Community's Perspective'.

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**Paavo H.T. Leppänen** is a full Professor at the University of Jyväskylä –Finland. His research mostly deals with Dyslexia, Developmental psychology, Reading, Event-related potential and

Language disorder. His Dyslexia study incorporates themes from Cognitive psychology, Communication disorder, Verbal memory and Perception. His research integrates issues of Short-term memory, Oddball paradigm and Audiology The concepts of his Reading study are interwoven with issues in Speech perception, Psycholinguistics and Child development. His Event-related potential research is multidisciplinary, incorporating perspectives in Mismatch negativity, Sensory memory and Auditory perception. His work deals with themes such as Stimulus and Language development, which intersect with Language disorder.

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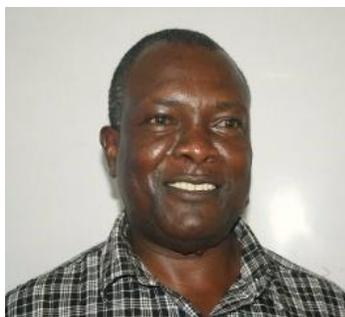
**Prof. Adelaide Lusambili** is an educator and a global health research and policy expert with 18 years of experience working in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and the UK. Currently, she leads streams of research that interrogate climate change heat exposure's impact on maternal and neonatal health (MNH) in SSA. She has contributed to the international debates on climate change and RMNC health and presented at high-level conferences including COP26/Scotland, COP27/Egypt, Africa Health Agenda (AHAIC) and at the Washington World Meteorological Conference 2023. She has been a principle investigator to over 15 research projects, published over 51 manuscripts in high-impact peer-reviewed journals and mentored many young researchers. She holds an MS in Mental Health from the University of Sheffield (UK) and a PhD in Medical Anthropology from the American University, Washington, DC.

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**Prof. Nathaniel Mofolo Sefako** Makgatho Health Sciences University, SA. Nathaniel is head of School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences at University of the Free State. Nathaniel does research in Clinical Pharmacology, Emergency Medical Care and Oncology. He has interest in ethics, medico-legal aspects, medical education and wellness. Nathaniel is currently registered for doctoral studies in higher education studies with University of Bath, UK.

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**Prof. Mugatsia Tsingalia** Obtained a B.Sc. (Hons.) in Zoology from the University of Nairobi and an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of California at Berkeley (UCB). He

is a biodiversity and climate change specialist with emphasis on tropical forests. I have extensive research experience in tropical forest biodiversity, dynamics and climate change. I have over twenty years of continuous research and monitoring of climate change influence in the Kakamega-Nandi Forest ecosystem, over ten years of working experience in training on sustainable forest management including training local communities in advocacy skills and fund-raising. My current major research interests are on impacts of climate change on tropical forests, climate change knowledge among local communities, mitigative and adaptive strategies of forest-adjacent communities to climate change, community resource conservation and sustainable utilization, long-term Biodiversity assessment and monitoring, land use and land change impacts.

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**Ms Kuda Brandt** is a Science and Innovation Communication Specialist in the Directorate of Research, Innovation and Partnerships at the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST). She started off her career as a journalist over 15 years ago, then became a News Anchor and Sub-editor at a privately-owned broadcaster in Namibia. Thereafter, in 2015, she became a Communications Officer and subsequently Senior Communications Officer in the Marketing Department at NUST. In 2021, she was appointed as the Communications Coordinator for the Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL) Graduate Studies Programme (GSP) at the University. The Programme focuses on various thematic areas in Integrated Water Resources Management. Her role included strategically coordinating the GSP's marketing and communications in all media, both locally and internationally. Thereafter she assumed her current role.

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**Dr. Christine K. Owinyi, PhD**, holds a PhD in Education management and policy studies. She holds Master's and Bachelor's Degrees in Education from Egerton University. She works at Kenya Education Management Institute, KEMI but currently on study leave in Canada at Fanshawe International College in London Ontario. She served as the in-charge of Research, Consultancy and Sustainable Development Programs. She was spearheading the Teacher Professional Development Program being offered by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) as the lead consultant for KEMI which is a

service provider. She represents KEMI in several other education and research institutions such as KNATCOM, KICD, DIGNITAS, JASLIKA, GESCI ADAPT, WERK, Africa for SDGs, Agakhan Academy, HWPL of South Korea, British Council, MASHAV of Israel, MoE and KISE. She has spearheaded and participated in several programs in Kenya including Education for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship Education, Sustainable Development Goals, Global Peace Education, Gender Issues (Gender Based Violence), among others. She initiated the establishment of Education for Sustainable Development Model Institutions in Kenya with Kenya Education Management Institute (KEMI) and founding the Pick-up Trash campaign.

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