



**RESEARCHER ID.NO:** 5514488

**SCOPUS ID:**

**ORCHID:**

**Position:** Principal Research Officer (PRO)

**Title:** Ecologist

## 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. **NAME:** Simon Ndungu Wairungu
- 1.2. **ADDRESS:** P. O. Box 12069 Nyeri
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- 1.4. **EMAIL ADDRESS:** [simonwairungu@gmail.com](mailto:simonwairungu@gmail.com), [swairungu@kefri.org](mailto:swairungu@kefri.org)
- 1.5. **NATIONALITY:** Kenyan
- 1.6. **GENDER:** Male

## 2. QUALIFICATIONS

### 2.1: Academic Qualifications

- (i) B.Sc. Biological Sciences (Second Class honours-Upper division), University of Nairobi (1986 – 1989)
- (ii) M.Sc. (Tropical Forestry & Management), TU-Dresden, Germany (1998 – 2000)

## 3. Areas of Competency

- (i) Rehabilitation of degraded natural forests, woodlands and riverine ecosystems
- (ii) Proper Species-Site matching for successful rehabilitation of forests
- (iii) Forest ecology mainly species composition and regeneration of tree species in forest ecosystems
- (iv) Forest biodiversity and species composition studies through establishment of Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs)

- (v) Participatory Forest Management (PFM), where Forest Adjacent Communities (FACs) are key in forest protection and conservation
- (vi) On-farm tree planting e.g. woodlot establishment and nature based Income Generating Activities (IGAs) to support rehabilitation and conservation of forests

#### **4. Positive attributes**

- (i) I have a strong liking for nature and natural ecosystems
- (ii) I am self-motivated while working in the areas of competency mentioned above
- (iii) I am keen in listening and interrogating for effective implementation of activities
- (iv) I have a strong sense of perseverance in order to achieve targets and get results
- (v) I am very cooperative and works well with others in KEFRI including the Forest Adjacent Communities (FACs) through their Community Forest Associations (CFAs)

#### **5. Short Courses/Seminars/Workshops**

**2020/21** - Participated in a series of workshops in preparation of the Nyeri county Forest policy and bill on behalf of ARD Nyeri, in collaboration with Nyeri County officers, MCAs and Other Stakeholders with facilitation from UNDP (Sept 2020 – March 2021)

**2020** – Participated in a FAO project’s Resource Persons training in tree nursery establishment and Rehabilitation of degraded forest ecosystems, where I was a trainer on the process of rehabilitation.

**2019** – Participated in a KEFRI organized data management, analysis and report writing course (R-analysis and other packages)

**2015** – Participated in a 3 weeks Seminar on Trans-Boundary Bio-diversity Protection Research and Management for Developing Countries held in Beijing, China (9 to 29 June 2015)

**2007** – Participated in an Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Audit (EIA/EA) 3 weeks course at Kenya Institute of Administration (KIA), Nairobi, Kenya (12<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007).

**2007** – Participated in a 2 weeks Participatory Forest Management (PFM) training Workshop held at MS-tcdc in Arusha, Tanzania (24<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2007).

**2005** – Participated in a Biodiversity Monitoring workshop held in Dar-es-salaam, Tanzania.

**2005** – Attended a Participatory Natural Resources Management and Governance (PNRM&G) training workshop, held at MS-tcdc in Arusha, Tanzania.

**1997** - Biodiversity Conservation Course / Workshop held at Nsukka and Calabar in Nigeria, organized by the Man & Biosphere (M&B) organization.

**1994**- Regional Bamboo workshop (Phase 11) and the assessment of Bamboo and Associated vegetation in L. Naivasha watershed (held in Naivasha & Nairobi, Kenya).

**1993** - Regional Bamboo workshop (Phase 1) and the assessment of Bamboo and Associated vegetation in L.Naivasha watershed, (held in Naivasha & Nairobi, Kenya).

**1990** – Social Forestry Refresher courses 1 & 11 held at KEFRI HQts, Muguga, Kenya.

## **6. Work Experiences Acquired**

- (i) Rehabilitation planting and assessment at Karima Hill forest in Othaya, Nyeri County (2019 – 2021)
- (ii) Survey of the Kabiruini forest to explore the potential of bee-keeping by the local communities, population of *Brachylaena huillensis* and other indigenous tree species e.g. *Calodendrum capense* etc. (2020)
- (iii) Rehabilitation of Lake Ol-Bolossat catchment forests and riparian areas in Nyandarua County (2020)
- (iv) Coordination of the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring of the Green Zones Development Support Project (GZDSP) rehabilitation sites in Aberdares, Mt. Kenya and Mau East Ecosystems (2012 – 2015).

- (v) Establishment of Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) in Arabuko Sokoke Forest (ASF) in the Cynometra forest (2015).
- (vi) Re-assessment of Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) in Arabuko Sokoke Forest (ASF) Nature Reserve with funding from Nature Kenya (NK) in 2008.
- (vii) Assessment of the Mangroves in Lamu District (Manda Island and Kipungani area) and in Maya Island in Kilifi District, Coast province (2001 - 2007).
- (viii) Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Kwale District, involving Resource assessment and socio-biophysical data collection in Dzombo, Mrima and Marenje forests, coast province (2001 - 2007).
- (ix) Forest Resource Assessment for the Participatory Forest Management Process (PFMP) in the Dida area of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (2001- 2009).
- (x) Vegetation assessment in the sites affected by the El-nino rains of 1997/98 in Arabuko-Sokoke forest (2001-2002).
- (xi) Establishment of Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) in Kwaregi Beat of Uplands forest (1996 – 2000 for the PSFM / MSc. Projects.)
- (xii) Establishment of PSPs at Njuki-ini, Mt.Kenya forest for the COMIFOR project (1997).
- (xiii) Conducted experiments on the responses of various indigenous tree species, to varying light intensities i.e. % at Chuka, Mt. Kenya forest (1994-1995).
- (xiv) Establishment of Belt-Transects for vegetation sampling at Got-Ramogi forest in Siaya (Jul/Aug 1993).
- (xv) Establishment of Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) in the Arabuko-Sokoke Nature Reserve (1989 – 1991).

## **7. Scientific/Conference papers**

- (i) Modern Silvicultural Practices Versus Livelihood needs: The case of Casuarina growing along the Kenyan Coastal Region (2010) – (M.T.E. Mbuvi, M.N. Muchiri and Simon Wairungu)

- (ii) PFM training Manual (2009) - J. Kagombe, M.T. E Mbuvi, B. Owuor and S. Wairungu
- (iii) Traditional Knowledge systems for Management of Kaya forests in Coast region of Kenya in 2008 - (D. Mutta, E. Chagala-Odera and S. Wairungu)
- (iv) Technical Report on the Status of Mida Creek Mangroves – Stocking rates and Re-stocking for improved productivity. A paper presented during the 4<sup>th</sup> KEFRI Scientific conference held at Muguga in October 2008 ( Simon Wairungu KEFRI and Dominic Mumbu, NK)
- (v) Technical report on the rehabilitation of Water Catchments in Mgange and Mwanda Locations, Taita Tavetta District, Kenya (Choge S., Wairungu S. Mwanziu F., and Kamau M.P.) in 2004.
- (vi) The Role of Kenya Forestry Research Institute at the Coast (Mutta D., Mbuvi M.T.E. and Wairungu S.N.) – In Coast express, 20-26 February 2004.
- (vii) Participatory Forestry Management (PFM) Piloting – Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Kenya. (Mbuvi M.T.E., Ayiamba O.W. Mathinji F.M. and Wairungu S.N.) in 2004.
- (viii) Technical report on Participatory Forest Management (PFM), Resource Assessment in Dzombo Hill Forest, in Kwale District, Kenya. (Wairungu S.N. and Kimani G.K.) in 2003.
- (ix) Technical report on Mangrove Conservation and Utilization research in Kilifi and Lamu Districts, in Kenya (Wairungu S.N., Mbuvi M.T.E., Kimani G.K., Muthini J.M., Welimo O. M and Kivyatu B.M.) in 2002.
- (x) The Effects of the 1997/98 El Nino rains in the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (Wairungu S.N. and Kimani G K) in 2002.
- (xi) The Economic importance of the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest water pools to the Forest Adjacent Communities (FAC) as well as the Forest Fauna (M. Fungomeli, J. Mathenge and S. Wairungu) in 2001.
- (xii) The Effects of Non-commercial utilization of forest resources to the species composition and nutrients at Uplands, Kenya (MSc. Thesis Oct. 2000, TU-Dresden, Institute of International Forestry and Forest Products, Tharandt, Germany).

- (xiii) The effects of pruning heights on the growth of *Cupressus lusitanica* at Londiani, Kenya (A paper presented at a scientific conference at KEFRI HQts, Muguga, in June 1996).
- (xiv) The Ecology and Conservation of Arabuko-Sokoke forest – some interim highlights (A paper presented during the first KEFRI scientific conference at KEFRI HQts, Muguga, Kenya in 1990).

## **8. Poster**

Giathi G. S. Wairungu and J. Mukami 2012: The status and the rehabilitation strategy of the degraded KEFRI-Gachuthi Natural forest. IUFRO-FORNESSA Regional congress & ITTO/AFFForest Policy Day 25-29 June 2012 Nairobi, Kenya

## **9. Technical note**

A Technical Note on Rehabilitation of degraded forests – Experiences of Green Zones Development Support Project (GZDSP) in Aberdares, Mt. Kenya and Mau East Ecosystems ( March 2019) – (Co-authored by B. Kamondo, P. Kungu, N. Riako, J. Ng'ang'a, B. Ngugi and E. Waweru)

## **10. Journal Paper**

Phytoremediation using bamboo species to reduce the risk of chromium exposure due to tannery contaminated site in Kenya (2017) – Faridah H. Were, Godfrey A. Wafula and Simon Wairungu

## **11. Research Proposal**

Development of Conservation Initiatives for Enhanced and Sustainable management of Mt. Kenya and Aberdares Water Towers, Kenya (Sept 2019).

## **12. Membership to Professional bodies/societies**

A Life member of the Forestry Society of Kenya (FSK)

### **13. Referees**

- (i) Dr. E. Mutitu RD-CERP
- (ii) Dr. R. Chira, Lecturer, UON
- (iii) Dr. J. Gichuki, Lecturer, UON