

Volga Habwe Lipwoni, Bsc (Forestry). Mphil Forestry (Agroforestry)

Born 15th January 1978; Kenyan; male; married.

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Key Qualifications and Professional experience

- Bachelor's Degree in Forestry and Master of Philosophy in Forestry (Agroforestry Option)
- More than 10 years of national and international work experience in Forest resources management, with specific exposure to Participatory forest management, forest carbon assessment and General forest inventory.
- University undergraduate level teaching experience
- Strong background in statistical analysis, proficient with various software packages including SPSS, MS Office and forestry inventory data capture and analysis softwares such as YTGEM AND PLOTSAFE.

Education

December 2005

Master of Philosophy in Forestry (Agroforestry) at Moi University (Kenya), Department of Forestry and Wood Science.

December 2001

Bachelor of Science in Forestry at Moi University (Kenya), Department of Forestry and Wood Science.

Employment

January 2015-Tutorial Fellow and the Examinations Officer at the School of Natural Resource Management, Maasai Mara University: Teaching of Forestry, Wildlife, Environment and Geography undergraduate students. I am also actively involved in reviewing the university's undergraduate and postgraduate forestry curriculum and I am in charge of the university's tree planting environmental sustainability programme.

January 2014 -December 2014- Part time Lecturer at the School of Natural Resource Management, Maasai Mara University: Teaching of Forestry, Wildlife, Environment and Geography undergraduate students. Some of the courses taught include introduction to forestry, introduction to soil science, introduction to environmental law.

March 2013 to Date-Associate Consultant, Camco Advisory Services (K) Ltd; Working as a Lead Expert in Forest carbon assessments including plot establishment, tree assessments and data capture, data management and analysis as well as general forest resource assessments and inventory.

Jan 2011 to Dec 2012- Senior Mensuration Forester and Inventory Team Leader at Interpine Forestry Limited, New Zealand (A Leading forest consulting and data Management Company in New Zealand-NZ). Involved in data collection and management for the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and nationwide forest carbon surveys for New Zealand's Ministry for the

Environment Land-use and Carbon Analysis System. As an Inventory Team leader, I undertook General forest resource inventories across NZ with some fieldwork in Australia.

Aug 2009- Jan 2010- Deputy National Coordinator, Kenya Forests Working Group/East African Wild Life Society (A multi-stakeholder national network promoting sustainable natural resource management in Kenya through research, advocacy, networking and partnerships development). I assisted in managing KFWG secretariat, administering implementation of programs and coordinating the KFWG Network. I was involved in the development of project concept papers and proposals for fundraising.

August 2007 to Aug 2009-Technical Project Officer at KFWG; Involved in monitoring status of the country's forests through GIS and remote sensing; management planning, promotion of sustainable forest based enterprises in especially in Kenya's Arid and Semi Arid Areas and undertaking research in forestry.

January 2006 to July 2007- Technical Project Officer at Forest Action Network (A National Non Government Organization working in natural resources management and the environment in Kenya)- I worked with relevant stakeholders in natural resources and in particular local communities and government departments in promoting the participatory management of natural resources and undertaking research in forestry.

April 2003 to December 2005- Teaching and Research Assistant in the Department of Forestry and Wood science at Moi University, Kenya; Involved in grading homework and assisting in laboratory and discussion sessions. Data collection, carrying out laboratory analysis and writing of my M. Phil. Thesis; *Effects of the Taungya (shamba) system on tree growth and crop yields in Mt. Elgon forest, Kenya* under Prof. Moses Imo through support from the Rockefeller African Career awards.

Undergraduate Students Fourth Year Projects Supervised

Nancy Moraa (2016): Assessment of challenges and opportunities of restoring the Maasai Mau forest – a case study of Nkareta area

Olgah Hellens (2016): Implications of Charcoal production to vegetation cover in Nkareta ward, Narok County

Okubo Robert (2015): Potential impacts of solid wastes disposed off along Maai Mahiu-Narok high way on wildlife

Selected Publications, Reports and Presentations

Lipwoni, V. Kagombe, J. Makhanu, R. Gichuki, L. and Ekakoro, E. (2014). Annotated bibliography of Africa PFM learning. Kenya Forest Service.

Kingiri Senelwa, Emmanuel Ekakoro, Balozi B. Kirongo, Lazare Etiégni, Bernard Orori, Volga Lipwoni, Jokshan Kaheeru Katigo and Lucy M. Mboma. (2009). Effect of Charcoal Kilns Construction and Firing on Soil Chemical Characteristic. Journal of Tropical Forest Management (ISSN 0215-157X) Vol XV, (3)91-95.December.

- Lipwoni, V. H. (2009). The Role of Non-Governmental Organisations and Working Groups in shaping Forest Policy- Presentation at the International forestry seminar on Kenya. Helsinki, Finland.
- Lipwoni, V. H. and Gachanja, M., (2009). Maasai Mau forest Management Plan. Kenya Forests Working Group
- Thenya, T. and Lipwoni, V. H. (2009). Nandi North Participatory Forest Management. Biotope Consultancy Services.
- Thenya, T. Kiama, S. Lipwoni, V. H. (2008). Socio-economic Survey and Livelihood Analysis of the Maasai Mau ecosystem. Kenya Forests Working Group.
- Lipwoni, V. Kiplagat, J. Nekesa, K. (2006). *Realizing MDG 7 Through Environmental Response in Kenya*. Forest Action Network, Nairobi, Kenya. xi + 44pp.
- Lipwoni, V. H. (2005). Effectiveness of non-residential cultivation in forest establishment and management in Mt. Elgon (Kenya), its contribution to the food security and economy, its challenges and failures (**Action Aid Kenya funded research**)
- Lipwoni, V. H. (2005). Effects of the Taungya (shamba) system on tree growth and crop yields in Mt. Elgon forest, Kenya (**Moi University, Master of Philosophy dissertation**)
- Lipwoni, V. H. (2001). Comparative studies on *Gliricidia sepium*, *Gravillea robusta* and *Leucaena leucocephala* with *Dombeya goetzii* as source materials for nursery soil (**Moi University Kenya, undergraduate dissertation**)

Training, Conferences/Short courses attended

- 29th February to 18th March 2016-** Learning, action research and outreach for inclusive development. International Centre for development oriented Research in Agriculture, Wageningen-Netherlands
- 7th to 14th September 2014-**Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) General Assembly. Seville, Spain.
- April 2012-** Plotsfae /YTGEN Forest Inventory Training Course; Jointly organised by Interpine Forestry and Wairiki Institute of Technology, **Rotorua, New Zealand.**
- 25th June to 1st July 2011-**Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) General Assembly. **Kota Kinabalu, Sabah-Malaysia.**
- 9th to 13th November 2009-** International Workshop on Statistical and Spatial Analysis of Diversity Data; Towards a Better Understanding and Use of Underutilized Tree Genetic Resources; Jointly organised by the university of Ghent, Belgium and Institute of Rural development, Mali, **Bamako, Mali.**
- 3rd to 22nd August 2009-** Participatory GIS course in development studies-**Helsinki Summer School, Department of Geography at the University of Helsinki; Finland**
- 29th September to 18th October 2008-** Leadership and adaptive management; **Wageningen University, Netherlands**
- 19th October to 8th November 2008-** Supporting decentralized forest and nature management for rural development; **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Ghana**
- 15th to 22nd April 2008-** Leadership for Ecoagriculture in East Africa Course –Organised by Ecoagricultural partners at **Jinja Nile resort, Uganda**

Membership in Professional societies/Committees

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- Member, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Environmental- South chamber
- Member, Ecoagriculture Leaders, East Africa.
- Member, Kenya Forestry Society (KFS) (A society for Kenyan Foresters).

Member, Kenya Forests Working Group (KFWG) (A network of stakeholders concerned with Kenya's forests).

Former Member, Kenya Forest Service (KFS)/Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) Technical Liaison Committee. (A Government committee on forest management and research).

Grants and scholarships

Centre Technique de Coopération Agricole et Rurale (CTA) grant for short course training in Mali

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland grant for short course training in Finland

Netherlands Fellowship Programme Award for short course training in Netherlands and Ghana

African career award Fellowship under Prof. Moses Imo (for master's thesis research work)

Kenya Higher Education Board Fund undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships.

Languages: Proficient in spoken and written English and Swahili

Referees:

Prof. Aggrey Thuo

Dean, School of Tourism and Natural Resources Management

Maasai Mara University

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Prof. Moses Imo

Associate Professor, Forest Soils & Silviculture

Dept. of Forestry & Wood Science, Moi University

P.O. Box 1125-Eldoret, Kenya

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