

Margaret A. Owuor

P.O. Box 55129 - 00200, Nairobi, Kenya | owuor158@gmail.com | +254726837864

Environment Scientist, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

National Geographic Explorer | Mentor | Researcher (conservation science) | Community Engagement

EDUCATION

- 2017:** **Ph.D. Marine and Coastal Management** (*Cum Laude*), University of Cadiz, Spain and University of Algarve, Portugal
- 2014:** **MSc. Fisheries Science**, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2009:** **MSc. Water and Coastal Management**, University of Plymouth, United Kingdom and University of Cadiz, Spain.
- 2004:** **B.Ed. Zoology and Botany**, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

February 2020

Visiting Professor, University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal (*Part-time*)

Successfully taught and administered assessment to Masters students in Water and Coastal management, Erasmus Mundus programme on Tropical Coastal Ecosystems.

- Taught 15 Masters students from different continents, Asia, South America, Africa, Europe, and North America.
- Designed class exercises using different case studies from the different countries represented i.e. Brazil, Kenya, Nigeria, Spain, leading to students learning on ecosystems, biodiversity and human wellbeing.

October 2018 - Present

Lecturer, South Eastern Kenya University, Kitui, Kenya (*Tenured*)

- Lecturing courses on environment conservation and management.
- Collaborating with colleagues from South Eastern Kenya University, Jomo Kenyatta University and IHE Delft Institute for Water Education to implement a multidisciplinary research on NaBWIG (Nature Based Water Infrastructure for Global Goals) for management of rivers in arid and semi-arid areas funded by the Government of the Netherlands.

January 2014 – June 2017

Research Fellow, Fundación Universidad Empresa (FUECA), Cádiz, Spain (*Training position*).

- I developed my Ph.D. proposal on *Application of ecosystem services tools for the management of mangroves in Kenya. The case of Watamu Marine Park and Reserve* that won a grant on Ocean Management from WWF Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program (EFN).

RESEARCH GRANTS

2018 - 2020: National Geographic Society (Early Career Grant) – NGS (USD 5000).

- I designed, wrote and implemented a project as the Principal Investigator (PI) on *Mapping of the flow of mangrove forest ecosystem services using participatory approaches in Mtwapa Creek Kenya* funded by the National Geographic Society, Early Career Grant <http://admin.nationalgeographic.org/find-explorers/margaret-awuor-owuor-phd>
- I led a team of 3 researchers and 2 students on internship from the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) to design questionnaires, mobilize community groups collect data and implement the project to completion.

- Following the successful completion of this project, I applied for Early Career Leadership Program 2020-2021 by National Geographic which I have been accepted for <https://blog.nationalgeographic.org/2020/08/24/the-national-geographic-societys-2020-2021-early-career-leadership-program-cohort/>

2018 - 2019: Marine and Coastal Science for Management (MASMA) – WIOMSA (USD 94,000).

- I designed, wrote and implemented a training workshop as the project PI with a team of researchers from Machakos University, Kenya; University of Nairobi, Center for Environmental Policy, Kenya; Kenya Wildlife Services; University of Algarve, Portugal and Cambridge University, UK on quantification and assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Trained a team of researchers/managers (26) from the Western Indian Ocean- region on various concepts and techniques of quantifying and valuing ES.
- Created an informal network of ocean, coastal and terrestrial researchers and practitioners in biodiversity and ecosystem services assessment
- Developed a handbook to guide scientists, researchers and practitioners on biodiversity and ecosystem services assessment
- Wrote technical and financial report.

2015 – 2017: World Wildlife Fund (WWF) – Russell E. Train Fellowship (USD 17,000).

- I designed, wrote and implemented a project on *Application of ecosystem services tools for the management of mangrove forest ecosystems in Kenya. The case of Watamu Marine Park and Reserve* that won a fellowship from WWF Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program.

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- Cecilia, Olima., Muoria, Paul., **Owuor, Margaret. Awuor.** 2020. Valuation of harvested goods in Mida Creek, Application of TESSA approach, *Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Science (accepted)*.
- **Owuor, Margaret. Awuor,** 2020. Working with local communities: Trees as Nature-Based Solutions: A Global South Perspective, *One Earth*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2020.07.008>
- **Owuor, Margaret. Awuor.,** Mulwa Richard., Philip Otieno., John Icely., Alice Newton. 2019 Valuing Mangrove Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: A Deliberative Choice Experiment in Mida Creek, Kenya. *Journal of Ecosystem Services*, 40, 101040. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoser.2019.101040>
- **Owuor, Margaret. Awuor.,** John Icely., Alice Newton. 2019 Community perceptions of the status and threats facing mangroves of Mida Creek, Kenya: Implications for community-based management. *Ocean and Coastal Management* 175, 172-179. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2019.03.027>
- **Owuor, Margaret. Awuor.,** John Icely., Alice Newton., Judith Nyunja., Philip Otieno., Arthur Tuda, Nancy Oduor. 2017. Mapping of ecosystem services in Mida Creek, Kenya. *Ocean and Coastal Management* 140, 11-21. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2017.02.013>

LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES

- English-official language (fluent)
- Kiswahili - East African *lingua franca* (fluent)
- French (reading)
- Luo (mother tongue) (fluent)
- Spanish: Basic (speaking, reading, writing)
- Portuguese: Basic (speaking, reading, writing).

REFEREES

1. Professor Alice Newton, Ph.D (**Former Ph.D. supervisor**)
DCTMA- Department of Earth, Environmental and Marine Sciences
CIMA-Centre for Marine and Environmental Research
Gambelas Campus
University of Algarve
8005-139 Faro

Portugal
skype: alice.newton
Tel and WhatsApp +351 91 911 00 26

2. Professor Romulus Abila, Ph.D. **(Former Dean of Faculty where I belong)**
Department of Environmental Studies, Geography and Agriculture
School of Tourism and Natural Resources Management
Maasai Mara University
P.O. Box 861 - 20500. Narok – Kenya
+254720944099

3. Dr Rosie Trevelyan, Ph.D **(Mentor and research collaborator)**
Director, Tropical Biology Association
The David Attenborough Building
Pembroke Street
Cambridge CB2 3QZ, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1223 763436
<http://www.tropical-biology.org/>