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Dr Silas Odongo Oriaso early this year won the prestigious Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship jointly offered by African Academy of Sciences (AAS), the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID).

The Climate Impact Research Capacity and Leadership Enhancement (CIRCLE) Initiative aims at building the research and leadership capacity of young African scholars in the area of Climate Change and Adaptation using trans-disciplinary, seminar, mentorship and Research Development Framework (RDF) methodologies.

Dr Oriaso's research topic is "Leveraging Community-based Communications and Adaptations for Sustainable Livelihoods among arid and semi arid populations in Makueni County in Kenya"

The one year project is jointly supervised by Prof. Jacques McGlade (University of Oxford), Prof. John Morton (University of Greenwich), Dr Zinta Zommers (UNEP), Dr Sunday Leonard (UNEP) and Prof Shem Wandiga (University of Nairobi). The Fellowship is taking place in the Department of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi.