

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

Department of Geography & Environmental Studies

Annual Report 2014

The Department of Geography & Environmental Studies is one of the academic departments in the: (1) Faculty of Arts; (2) School of Physical Sciences; and (3) School of Education. In addition, the department offers service courses to students from the School of Biological Sciences (SBS); School of Economics; Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies (IAGAS); School of Journalism and Mass Communication; and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.



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Our vision is to be a department of international repute committed to scholarly excellence in geography and environmental studies. Our mission is to provide dynamic leadership in the teaching, research, consultancy and outreach services in geography and environmental studies for the benefit of humanity and sustainable development.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

Undergraduate Programmes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (1) BA in Geography and Environmental Studies • (2) BSc in Geography and Environmental Studies • (3) BEd in Geography
Master of Arts Programmes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (1) MA in Agricultural Geography • (2) MA in Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management • (3) MA in Climatology • (4) MA in Economic Geography • (5) MA in Environmental Planning and Management • (6) MA in Geomorphology • (7) MA in Population Geography • (8) MA in Transport Geography • (9) MA in Urban Geography • (10) MA in Water Resources Management
Master of Science Programmes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (1) MSc in Hydrology • (2) MSc in Sustainable Urban Development
PhD Programmes in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All fields of Geography and Environmental Studies
Diploma Programme in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Resources Management



The Department has a pool of undergraduate students from the Faculty of Arts; School of Physical Sciences; and School of Education, with a number of postgraduate students enrolled in the various MA/MSc programmes. During the academic year 2013, the department had 12 international postgraduate students from Djibouti; Liberia; Malawi; Nigeria; Rwanda; Somali Land; Tanzania; Zambia and Zimbabwe.

RESEARCH PROJECTS



Project Name	Project Coordinator(s)/Member(s)
Food planning and innovation for sustainable metropolitan regions (FOODMETRES) – Nairobi case study	Dr. S.O. Owuor, Dr. D. Foeken, Dr. R. Simiyu & Ms. T. Mbatia
Integrated graduate education research traineeship (IGERT) project	Dr. A.O. Odingo
Urban national parks in emerging countries and cities (UNPEC)	Ms. T. Mbatia
Water sector reforms and interventions in urban Kenya (WAS RIP)	Dr. S.O. Owuor & Dr. D. Foeken
Feasibility and effectiveness of low-intensity CBT for women affected by urban violence in urban Kenya	Prof. R. Bryant, Dr. M. Humphrey, Dr. A. Schafer, Mr. L. Ndogoni & Ms D. Anjuri
Enhancing the quality of graduates of agriculture and veterinary sciences to meet tomorrow’s food security challenges (PREPARE- BSc) in East Africa	Dr. B.N. Wambua
Eastern Mau: Focus Forest Use, Conflicts and Legal Pluralism Collaboration between University of Nairobi and	Dr. T. Thenya
Overview of Sustainable Development Policies in Africa	Dr. T. Thenya

LINKS AND COLLABORATIONS



The department maintained active links and collaboration with the following institutions:

INSTITUTION	COUNTRY
1. African Studies Centre	Netherlands
2. Centre for Development and Environment, University of Berne	Switzerland
3. Centre for Research in Arid and Semi-Arid Development (CETRAD)	Kenya
4. Department of Geography, McGill University	Canada
5. Institute of French Research in Africa (IFRA)	Kenya
6. Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences	China
7. Linköping University	Sweden
8. Mitsubishi Corporation, Nairobi Liaison Office	Kenya/Japan
9. National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)	Kenya
10. Royal Holloway University, London	UK
11. United Nations University (UNU)	Japan
12. University Bordeaux Montaigne	France

PUBLICATIONS

- Ayiemba, E., S. Owuor**, A. Omambia & P. Bhanderi (eds.) (2014), *Tana River County: Sustainable Resource Utilization and Environmental Management*. Nairobi: UoN/NEMA/Wetlands International.
- Ayiemba, E.H.O** & F.N. Mutui (2014), An assessment of available educated labour force for sustainable environmental conservation and management in Tana River County. In E. Ayiemba, S. Owuor, A. Omambia & P. Bhanderi (eds.), *Tana River County: Sustainable Resource Utilization and Environmental Management*. Nairobi: UoN/NEMA/Wetlands International, pp. 32-43.
- Benit-Gbaffou, C., P. Gervais-Lambony, K. Ginisty & **S. Owuor** (2014) Résistances quotidiennes à l'injustice en ville. Contrôle social local, opportunités politiques et modes d'expression du sentiment d'injustice dans l'espace public urbain. In P. Gervais-Lambony, C. Bénit-Gbaffou, A. Musset, J.L. Piermay & S. Planel (eds), *La justice spatiale et la ville, regards du Sud*. Paris: Karthala, pp. 207-226.
- Benit-Gbaffou, C., S. Oldfield, W. Belarbi, A. Iraki & **S. Owuor** (2014) Mouvement sociaux urbains et injustice spatiale. La difficile mobilisation des «droits ». In P. Gervais-Lambony, C. Bénit-Gbaffou, A. Musset, J.L. Piermay & S. Planel (eds), *La justice spatiale et la ville, regards du Sud*. Paris: Karthala, pp. 227-244.
- Bhanderi, P., **E. Ayiemba, S. Owuor**, A. Omambia, **B. Wambua** & W. Busienei (2014), Sustainable resource utilization and environmental management in Tana River County: Recommendations and policy options. In E. Ayiemba, S. Owuor, A. Omambia & P. Bhanderi (eds.), *Tana River County: Sustainable Resource Utilization and Environmental Management*. Nairobi: UoN/NEMA/Wetlands International, pp. 169-178.
- Kithiia, S.M., G. Krhoda & B.N. Wambua** (2014), Land alienation, livelihoods and integrated water resources management strategy in Tana River County. In E. Ayiemba, S. Owuor, A. Omambia & P. Bhanderi (eds.), *Tana River County: Sustainable Resource Utilization and Environmental Management*. Nairobi: UoN/NEMA/Wetlands International, pp. 95-103.
- Mbatia T.W. & S. Owuor** (2014), Prospects for urban eco-tourism in Nairobi: Experiences from the Karura Forest Reserve. *African Journal of Sustainable Development* 4 (3): 183-198.
- Mikalitsa, S.M.** (2014), From Qatar with the love for the soil: Between agro-colonialism and globalization. In G. Gona & M. wa-Mungai (eds.), *(Re)membering Kenya Vol. III: Governance, Citizenship and Economics*. Nairobi: Twaweza Communications.
- Mwaikenda, P. & **B.N. Wambua** (2014), Assessment of compliance to sustainable development on mining activities in Tanzania: A case study of Kahama District. *Asian Journal of Business Management (AJBM)* 2(4).
- Njeru, J.M., I. Johnston-Anumonwo & **S.O. Owuor** (2014), Gender equity and commercialization of public toilet services in Nairobi, Kenya. In A.M. Oberhauser & I. Johnston-Anumonwo (eds.), *Global Perspectives on Gender and Space: Engaging Feminism and Development*. London/New York: Routledge, pp. 17-34.
- Nyerere, J., O. Mfunu, D. Fuh, N. Sulemana, E. Mutisya, G. Yiran, O. Fadairo, J. Ameyaw, **A.A. Oluoko-Odingo** (2014), The role of higher education in building a sustainable African society. *African Journal of Sustainable Development* 4 (3).

- Oluoko-Odingo, A. & E.H.O. Ayiemba** (2014), Gender imperatives against climate risks and building resilience for sustainability. In E. Ayiemba, S. Owuor, A. Omambia & P. Bhanderi (eds.), *Tana River County: Sustainable Resource Utilization and Environmental Management*. Nairobi: UoN/NEMA/Wetlands International, pp. 116-122.
- Oluoko-Odingo, A.A.** & Mutisya, E. (2014), Organic or inorganic agriculture: The environmental costs and imperatives for African agriculture. *International Journal of Agriculture Innovation and Research (IJAIR)* 2 (6).
- Oluoko-Odingo, A.A.**, O. Fadairo, J. Ameyaw, G. Yiran, E. Mutisya, O. Mfunne, D. Fuh, J. Nyerere, N. Sulemana (2014), Learning to solve Africa's problems by Africans: Innovations for addressing the cancer of corruption. *African journal of Sustainable Development* 4 (3).
- Omambia, A., **S. Owuor**, W. Busienei & W.C.O. Ngolo (2014), Introduction. In E. Ayiemba, S. Owuor, A. Omambia & P. Bhanderi (eds.), *Tana River County: Sustainable Resource Utilization and Environmental Management*. Nairobi: UoN/NEMA/Wetlands International, pp. 8-14.
- Schafer, A. & **L. Ndogoni** (2014), Mental health and psycho-social support in emergencies: Exploring the potential of faith to enhance response and recovery. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 33(2): 184-193.
- Senaratna, N., M. Bandoi, **A.A. Oluoko-Odingo**, L. Ajuang, D.W. Wepukhulu & A.S. Wandali (2014), Natural hazards and climate change in Kenya: Minimizing impacts on vulnerable communities through early warning systems. In A. Singh & Z. Zommers (eds), *Reducing Disasters: Early Warning Systems for Climate Change*. Springer Dordrecht Heidelberg: New York and London.
- Shah, P. & E. Irandu** (2014), Ecotourism as a strategy for promoting conservation of biodiversity in Tana River County. In E. Ayiemba, S. Owuor, A. Omambia & P. Bhanderi (eds.), *Tana River County: Sustainable Resource Utilization and Environmental Management*. Nairobi: UoN/NEMA/Wetlands International, pp. 44-50.
- Thenya, T.** (2014), *Assessment of Baseline Status (Socio-Economic, Social Services, Livelihood, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection) for Central and Southern Somalia*. Alshahid Center for Research and Media Studies.
- Thenya, T.** (2014), *Forest Landscape Restoration National Project*. World Resources Institute (WRI).
- Wambua, B.N.** & E.P. Malunga (2014), Infrastructural development using stabilized soil blocks as a tool for climate change mitigation and sustainable development in Malawi. *Asian Journal of Engineering and Technology (AJET)* 2(4)
- Wambua, B.N.** & **S.M. Kithiia** (2014), Effects of soil erosion on sediment dynamics, food security and rural poverty in Makueni District, Eastern Kenya. *International Journal of Applied Science and Technology (IJAST)* 4(1)
- Wambua, B.N.**, **K. Omoke** & T.M. Mutua (2014), Effects of socio-economic factors on food security situation in Kenyan dry lands ecosystem. *Asian Journal of Agriculture and Food Science (AJAFS)* 2(1)

THE STAFF

Academic Staff	No.	Technical Staff	No.
• Professor	2	• Chief Technologist	1
• Associate Professor	3	• Senior Technologist	1
• Senior Lecturer	10	• Technologist	2
• Lecturer	13	• Cartographer	1
• Tutorial Fellow	2	• Technical Assistant	1
• Part-Time Lecturer	1	• Map Curator	1
		• Secretary	1

PAPERS PRESENTED IN SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

Second round-table: Resilient cities



Three Round-Tables on CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN East Africa KAMPALA 2014








Colman T. Msoka



Nicolas Drunet



Isaac Serwandda



David Mann



Sam Owuor



Dorothy Baziwe



Patrick Kayemba



Jérôme Garzulino

Ayiemba, E.H.O & F.N. Mutui (2014), An assessment of available educated labour force for sustainable environmental conservation and management in Tana River County. National Scientific Conference on the Tana River County. Mombasa, Kenya, 25-27, February.

Ayiemba, E.H.O. (2014), Opportunities for the development of landscape approaches in Kenya: An academic perspective. 7th Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Conference (HOA-REC). Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 24-28 November.

Kithiia, S.M., G. Krhoda & B.N. Wambua (2014), Land alienation, livelihoods and integrated water resources management strategy in Tana River County. National Scientific Conference on the Tana River County. Mombasa, Kenya, 25-27, February.

Mikalista, S.M. (2014), Population change, socio-economic characteristics and soil erosion: The case of Nyando District, Kenya. ICCAE Seminar, School of Agricultural Sciences, Nagoya University, Japan, 24 March.

Mikalista, S.M. (2014), Socio-economic determinants of household food security among smallholder farmers: A case study of Vihiga and Busia Counties, Kenya. ICCAE Seminar, School of Agricultural Sciences, Nagoya University, Japan, 25 February.

Naivasha, Kenya, September.

Oluoko-Odingo, A. & E.H.O. Ayiemba (2014), Gender imperatives against climate risks and building resilience for sustainability. National Scientific Conference on the Tana River County. Mombasa, Kenya, 25-27, February.

Oluoko-Odingo, A.A. (2014), Post-2015 Development agenda: Integrating population, climate change, environment and development in Kenya. Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) and Population Action International (PAI) Workshop. Nairobi, Kenya, 3 April.

Oluoko-Odingo, A.A. (2014), Women leading change together. Conference of the Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland. Harrogate, 6-8.

Owuor, S.O. (2014), Tana River County: Facts and Figures. National Scientific Conference on the Tana River County. Mombasa, Kenya, 25-27, February.

Owuor, S.O. (2014), Urbanization, poverty and spatial injustice in Kenya. ESRC-DTC Workshop. London, United Kingdom, 17, September.

Owuor, S.O., L. Techsel & U. Weismann (2014), Urbanization, migration and economic development. IGS-NSS Summer School. Nanyuki, Kenya, 1-10, September.

Owuor, S.O., T. Mbatia & P. Shah (2014), Conservation of Karura forest reserve and its role in providing environmental services to Nairobi city. Round Table Workshop. Kampala, Uganda, 2, October.

Shah, P. & E. Irandu (2014), Ecotourism as a strategy for promoting conservation of biodiversity in Tana River County. National Scientific Conference on the Tana River County. Mombasa, Kenya, 25-27, February.

Thenya, T. (2014), Environmental stewardship: Promoting best practice in natural resources management. Green Belt Movement Learning Centre, Nairobi, Kenya, 7 July.

Thenya, T. (2014), Feasibility study on the conservation of the wider Eburu forest ecosystem through the establishment and management of the wildlife corridors and dispersal areas.

Thenya, T. (2014), Forest landscape restoration options and assessment criteria based on existing restoration initiatives. Kenya Wildlife Service, Nairobi, Kenya, 25 November.

Wambua, B.N. (2014), Unlocking export competitiveness: The role of trade facilitation. 8th TRAPCA Conference. Arusha, Tanzania, 20-21 November.



CORPORATE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY



1. MoU between Mitsubishi Corporation, Japan and the University of Nairobi for 14 annual scholarships to needy but bright students in geography and environmental studies.
2. The University of Nairobi Geography Students Society (UNGSS) participated in a number environmental activities in the community.

CONSULTANCIES

Name of Staff	Consultancy
Dr. S.O. Owuor	Review of the 2012 National Housing Survey Report (for MoLHUD)
Mr. L. Ndogoni	Training and capacity building for community based field staff (for Medair, Switzerland)
Dr. B.N. Wambua	Assessing the Water Users Associations (WRUAS) performance and the implication of the CoK 2010 to water resources management (for WRMA).
Dr. B.N. Wambua	Sustainable land management in Kenya (for MoEWNR)

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & VISIBILITY



In 2014, the following staff members were involved in academic-related international travels

Name of Staff	City/Country	Nature of Travel
Prof. E.H.O. Ayiembra	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Horn of Africa Regional Environment Meeting
Dr. S.O. Owuor	Bordeaux, France	Visiting Scholar
Dr. S.O. Owuor	Kampala, Uganda	Round Table Seminar on Resilient Cities
Dr. S.O. Owuor	London, UK	Visiting Scholar
Dr. A.O. Odingo	London, UK	Soroptimist International Federation Conference
Dr. A.O. Odingo	Abuja, Nigeria	UNISDR Fifth Session of Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
Dr. A.O. Odingo	Mexico	Association of Women's Rights in Development (AWID) Board Meeting
Dr. A.O. Odingo	Akosombo, Ghana	UNEP CLIM-WARN Seminar
Dr. A.O. Odingo	Tokyo, Japan	NGR Meeting
Dr. A.O. Odingo	Entebbe, Uganda	Thirty Sixth Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum
Dr. S.M. Mukhovi	Nagoya, Japan	Visiting researcher
Dr. I.A. Nyandega	Beijing, China	Sino-African Scientists Geo-Information Database Creation Meeting
Dr. T. Thenya	Copenhagen, Denmark	STAKE Project Meeting
Ms T. Mbatia	London, UK	FoodMeters Project Meeting
Ms T. Mbatia	Cape Town, South Africa	3 rd International Biodiversities Conference
Ms T. Mbatia	Berlin, Germany	FoodMeters Project Meeting