

ISABELLA LUTZILI ASAMBA

Dept. of Urban & Regional Planning
Maseno University, Kisumu-Busia Road
P.O. Box 333-40105,
Maseno, Kenya

Phone: +254 722 387 002
Email: iasamba@maseno.ac.ke

EDUCATION

2010 - 2020 PhD (Planning) Maseno University – Local institutional capacity to plan and foster climate adaptation responses in the Mara river basin, Kenya
2009 MA (Project Planning & Management), Maseno University
1985 BSc (Hons) Botany/ Zoology, University of Nairobi

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Carried out various research work in the following

1. Climate Change and the impact on local communities – Mara River Basin (Kenya)
2. Water, Social Organization and Livelihood in Western Kenya
3. Institutional policy implications on sustainable public municipal markets – Kisumu
4. Climate change water and vulnerability in low income settlements
5. Gender and Community water use – Kericho County
6. Public Participation in waste management within informal settlements of Kisumu City

Researcher, CUUSH Project Kisumu County

- Review of County action on stakeholders participation in areas of climate change action
- Capacity development on participation within the informal settlements of Nyalenda, Manyatta and Obunga

Co Researcher for Nyamira County: End of Programme Review of County Integrated Development Plan

Review of 2013 -2017 CIDP with County officials and stakeholders

- Identify and relate key gaps, opportunities and developments in the CIDP
- Develop specific recommendations towards 2018 – 2022 CIDP

Co Researcher for WaterAid East Africa: Scoping study for Kenya

- Analyze and produce evidences on the key development priorities and opportunities in the country that are important to the WASH sector
- Analyze and produce evidences on the current and future trends in terms of poverty reduction in the country
- Analyze and produce evidence on Political, Economic Socio-cultural, Technological, Legal and Environmental (PESTLE) context in the country and how all this relates to the WASH sector
- Conduct stakeholders mapping, stakeholder analysis; power analysis.

Trainer/ Researcher on Gender Mainstreaming at KIWASH/BFA

- Review and develop utility specific training modules on gender mainstreaming
- Facilitate Gender mainstreaming for urban water utilities in Kakamega- Busia, Siaya, Migori, Nyamira, Nairobi Water companies
- Support in developing practical action plans within each utility

Lead Researcher at SUWASA: KIWASCO Water Utility

- Facilitate SUWASA activities to support utility reforms that improve service delivery, particularly to the poor;
- Provide guidance and logistical support to the market assessment activity;
- Review the K-Rep Bank terms and conditions for financing the community and KIWASCO & Liaise with partner organizations in designing viable projects for the utilities
- Provide assistance and follow-up of 1500 connections to households
- Household survey on water use (Before/After study)

Lead Researcher for Royal Netherlands Embassy, UNICEF WASH Programme

Review of the UNICEF WASH programme activities in 7 water service boards in Kenya

The objectives of the mid - term evaluation/review were

- To assess the results achieved by the programme against set targets
- Focus on assessment of sustainability component by reviewing financial, institutional, technical, social and environmental sustainability
- Review current programme design and logframe and make recommendations for a reorientation of the programme

Lead Researcher, Catholic Diocese of Bungoma, Mutual Monitoring & Learning Programme

Support in strengthening of approaches and practices at the DOB Water Programme through:

- Organizational Review
- Technical Review
- Review of Community Approach
- Mid-term Review (& assessment of progress following steps 2&3)

Lead Researcher on Gender Responsive M&E, World Bank

- Undertake assessment of the current situation in terms of gender disaggregated data in Kenya within the Natural Resource Management Sector
- Design questionnaires towards the development of gender responsive indicators
- Develop gender responsive performance indicators in Natural Resource Management for the KAPP programme

Consultant, SRRC - Southern Sudan, total of 2½ months once consolidated (3 weeks each area)

Provide leadership and direction in setting up and strengthening of capacities of SRRC personnel in Upper Nile, Barghazel and Western Equitoria. Inclusive of the following areas:

- Project Design/planning
- Finance Management inclusive of (Budgeting and Resource mobilization)
- Setting up M&E
- Strategic alliance building
- Documentation
- Capacity assessment
- Research and evaluation

Institutional Development Advisor, SAMEZ/Horizont 3000, Nyasare Water Supply Association, Migori

To provide capacity development and to facilitate the establishment of appropriate systems to enable effective and efficient project steering towards self sufficiency, this involves:

- Design and institute good governance practices
- Policy review

- Review and support in improvement of financial practices
- Support towards improved revenue collection
- Support in development of a Communication Strategy
- Increasing stakeholder involvement in information sharing
- Review competencies, staff functions, Committee functions
- Institute M&E system

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching at the university level from 2011 to date, this has involved:

1. face to face classes for undergraduate programmes in the department of Urban and Regional Planning
2. online classes for the School of planning & Architecture

The process has involved

- Research and lesson preparation based on the course descriptions in the university curriculum
- Sourcing appropriate learning materials for students
- Create an interactive learning environment for students
- Undertake teaching of social planning aspects
- Support students carrying out research develop skills in research
- Field classes - Support students in developing and carrying out Rural & Regional planning studios
- Assessment of students on attachment
- Setting examination questions
- Moderating questions at the departmental levels
- Administering exams and Marking exam papers
- Review of previous modules with aim of improving

HONORS AND AWARDS

2012 One month capacity building training at Chalmers University, Gothenburg, Sweden under Mistra Urban Futures

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Kenya Institute of Management - Member

SKILLS AND TRAINING

Core skills are:

1. Creativity and problem solving
2. Research
3. Teamwork and Adaptability
4. Planning and organizing
5. Computer skills

Trained in

1. Project Management
2. Leadership
3. Research

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

1. Maseno University - Coordination of Kisumu Campus face to face programmes for the School of Development and Strategic Studies, School of Environment and Earth Sciences and School of Planning and Architecture (2019 to date).
2. Maseno University - eLearning Programme Coordinator for School of Planning and Architecture (2014 to date)
3. Maseno University - SPA Timetable and Examination Coordinator (2013-2014)
4. Lead planner for the Complex Urban Systems for Sustainability and Health (CUSSH), Enrichment Award: Public Engagement program - planning for public participatory workshops under Kisumu County Green Energy and Climate Change Department and Maseno University (2020)
5. Kenya Water & Sanitation Programme – Long Term Technical Advisor (2008 – 2010) within the Ministry of Water attached to Lake Victoria South Water service Board – covering 42 districts in 10 counties. Core leadership role was to spearhead performance Management of the Board through performance contracting. The aim was to improve governance and turnaround service delivery in the institution
6. Action Aid Kenya – Regional Coordinator/Development studies Centre coordinator (1996 – 2001) involved setting up of and linking individual and team targets on an annual, quarterly and monthly basis.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Various PHD Discourse Forums/workshops

1 Month Certificate course, Participatory Rural Appraisal, Egerton University Specialized in Institutional Development, policy analysis and financial analysis.

1 Month certificate course on Organisational Effectiveness, Goree Institute, Senegal

2 Month Certificate course, Management, Institute of Rural Management Anand, India Specialized in participatory methods

PUBLICATIONS

Asamba, I., Onyango, G.M. & Onyango, L. (2019). Understanding Institutional structures and their role on climate change adaptation: A case of Mara River Basin, Kenya. *International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science*, 7(4), 1-14.

Asamba, I., Onyango, L. & Onyango, G.M. (2019). Local Institutional landscapes and Information challenges as a crucial element for climate change adaptation: A case of Mara River Basin, Kenya. *International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science*. 7(7), 1-15.

Crow, B., Swallow, B. & Asamba, I.L (2012) Community Organized Household Water increases not only rural incomes, but also Men's work. - *World Development Journal Vol 40 Iss 3*, pages 528-541

Crow B, Swallow B, & Asamba I. (2009). *The Springs of Nyando: Water, Social Organization and Livelihoods in Western Kenya*. ICRAF Working Paper 90. Nairobi: World Agroforestry Centre.

Oduor-Noah, E., Asamba, I., Ford, R., Wichhart, L., and Lelo, F. (1992). *Implementing PRA: A Handbook to facilitate Participatory Rural Appraisal*. Worcester. Clark University.

Asamba, I., and Thomas-Slayter, B. (1991). From Cattle to Coffee: Transformation in Rural Machakos. Massachusetts. ECOGEN Research

Book Chapter

Asamba, I., and Thomas-Slayter, B. From Cattle to Coffee: Transformation in Mbusyani and Kyevaluki: In Gender, Environment, and Development in Kenya: A Grassroots Perspective. Lynne Rienner Publishers (1995).