

Ethiopia

Tsedey Beyene, MSc

Agricultural Economics
Youth Livelihood Officer

Mennonite Economic Development Associates
(MEDA)

Research area: Assessment of the potential for local rice value chains as an approach for smallholder women farmers to improve their livelihood.

Adey Desta, PhD

Water and Irrigation Management
Assistant Professor
Addis Ababa University

Research area: Prevention of irrigation water pollution using biological treatment of industrial effluents in the Awash River Delta.

Tigist Markos, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition
Lecturer
Hawassa University

Research area: Promotion of education and home gardening, quality evaluation and food product development as a nutrition intervention strategy for infants, children, adolescents and mothers.

Yenesew Mengiste Yihun, PhD

Water and Irrigation Management
Senior Lecturer
Addis Ababa University

Research area: Exploration of alternative and adaptive water management approaches to optimize crop (*teff*) productivity under drought and deficit water supply conditions.

Ghana

Rashida Abdul-Ganiyu, BSc

Molecular Biology
Research Technician
CSIR-Savanna Agricultural Research Institute
(SARI)

Research area: Development of improved crop varieties for use by women farmers through screening for desirable traits using molecular biology techniques.

Faith Yesutor Agbozo, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition
Lecturer
University of Health and Allied Sciences

Research area: Assessment of nutrition/health needs of communities and collective planning and implementation of sustainable evidence-based intervention strategies to improve quality of life.

Afua Atuobi-Yeboah, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition
Project Supervisor
University of Ghana

Research area: Empowerment of rural women through capacity building in agriculture extension, nutrition education, livelihood programs and research into agribusiness opportunities to promote income generation and differential benefits on children's outcomes.

Angela Parry-Hanson, PhD

Food Science and Nutrition
Lecturer
University of Ghana

Research area: Improvement of food quality through development of safe products for the food industry in Ghana.

Kenya

Naomi Ketter Chelimo, BSc

Horticulture

Teaching Assistant

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT)

Research area: Use of cocopeat soil-less media to enable collection of drain water to grow commercial roses for water conservation, reduction in fertilizer application, and environmental conservation around Lake Naivasha, Kenya.

Lilian Gogo, PhD

Food Science and Nutrition

Lecturer

Egerton University

Research area: Improvement of postharvest food processing and value addition of farm produce through development of simple, fast, and effective tools.

Rose Nyachomba Kigathi, PhD

Ecology

Lecturer

Pwani University

Research area: Use of knowledge on biodiversity gathered from natural ecosystems, to understand how cropping strategies influence patterns of functioning.

Grace Njeri Muinga, MSc

Agricultural Economics

Agribusiness Program Officer

African Agriculture Technology Foundation (AATF)

Research area: Improving selection of agricultural interventions and decision making by performing ex ante risk and impact assessment through quantification of costs, benefits, and risks.

Sarah Akwabi Mukolwe, BSc

Entomology

Zoologist

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

Research area: Investigation of emerging and re-emerging pests and parasites of veterinary importance and of livestock parasites and diseases of zoonotic potential.

Fiona Mumoki, MSc

Entomology

PhD student

University of Pretoria

Research area: Determination of factors affecting pollinator health (pests and diseases) and ecology (forage behavior and sustainable growth) using tools in chemical and molecular ecology for sustainable use and conservation of pollinators in Africa.

Susan Kabacia Mwai, BSc

Crop Science

Research Assistant

National Museums of Kenya

Research area: Cultivation and propagation of *Arbuscular Mycorrhiza* fungi for use as a bio-fertilizer to increase yields of elite pearl millet.

Caroline Mwongera, PhD

Ecology

Post-doctoral Scientist

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

Research area: Evaluation of climate smart agriculture practices to monitor trade-offs, benefits and barriers to adopting technologies in whole farm crop–livestock systems.

Nora Ndege, BSc

Food science and nutrition

Research Fellow

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

Research area: Assessment of access to training and use of fruit processing technologies by small-scale fruit farmers, mainly women, in Machakos-Mwala.



Catherine Taracha, PhD

Molecular Biology
Coordinator Crop Biotechnology
Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research
Organisation (KALRO)

Research area: Improvement of food security and poverty reduction through genetic engineering of maize for insect resistance.

Regina Tende, MSc

Crop Science
Senior Research Officer
Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research
Organisation (KALRO)

Research area: Reduction of losses and costs incurred by smallholder maize farmers through developing insect pest-resistant maize varieties.

Liberia

Romelle Horton, MSc

Extension education
Director of International Programs
Cuttington University

Research area: Use of service-learning as a strategy to connect universities with local farmers to ensure they work together and learn from each other.

Malawi

Veronica Guwela, MSc

Crop Science
Research area: Agricultural research for sustainable maternal and child nutrition and climate proofing of smallholder farming in Malawi using zinc and iron biofortified common beans.

Pauline Kalumikiza, BSc

Extension Education
Program Officer
Farm Radio Trust
Research area: Enhancement of agricultural extension services through radio and information and communication technologies.

Zione Kalumikiza, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition
Lecturer
Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural
Resources (LUANAR)

Research area: Capacity building in communities to improve health and nutrition of pregnant and lactating mothers and children under five years old.

Mphangera Kamanga, BSc

Agronomy
BSc Honors Student
University of Cape Town

Research area: Use of crop and climate modeling applications and research in agronomy to facilitate scaling down higher level agricultural policy to women farmers to improve their livelihood.

Elizabeth Magombo, BSc

Agricultural economics
Project Officer
African Institute of Cooperate Citizenship
Research area: Coordination of activities of the partnership of key players in Malawi's cotton value chain.

Catherine Mloza Banda, BSc

Extension Education
Agricultural Value Chain Officer
Farm Radio Trust
Research area: Design and development of innovative, participatory, and gender-sensitive ICT-based agricultural research and extension models that link smallholder farmers to agricultural research and technologies, to improve food security.

Maggie Phiri, BSc

Molecular Biology
MSc Student
Swedish University of Agriculture Sciences
Research area: Investigation of the potential of Bt cotton in diversifying the farm input subsidy program to enhance income opportunities for smallholder farmers.

Mozambique

Melvis Celeste Cossa, MSc

Molecular Biology

Researcher

Institute of Agricultural Research of Mozambique (IIAM)

Research area: Micro-propagation of crops through tissue culture to facilitate rapid multiplication of virus free vegetative material.

Ana Paula Laita Nguluve, BSc

Food Science and Nutrition

Food Quality Control Technician

Animal Science Directorate

Research area: Assessment of nutritional efficiency and economic viability of using different commercial diets on commercial chickens in southern Mozambique.

Maluleque Ivete, MSc

Forestry and Agroforestry

Forest Researcher

Institute of Agricultural Research of Mozambique (IIAM)

Research area: Development and dissemination of methods of propagation and tree-establishment techniques to improve and sustain agro-silvopastoral systems to improve community livelihood.

Marcia Maposse, BSc

Agronomy

Production Manager

Bindzu Agrobusiness e Consultoria, Lda

Research area: Provision of agronomic support, agricultural inputs and services and technical advice for value addition and to improve crop production.

Olivia Carolina Pedro, PhD

Veterinary Science

Lecturer

Eduardo Mondlane University

Research area: Use of molecular and chemical methods as tools to evaluate aquatic pollution in Mozambique, focusing on cyanobacteria and their toxins in in potable water.

Nigeria

Ayojesutomi Abiodun-Solanke, MSc

Aquatic resources and fisheries

Lecturer II

Federal College of Fisheries and Marine Technology

Research area: Improvement of safety and health consciousness of fisheries through outreach to increase productivity and awareness of sources of livelihood.

Mojisola Adegunwa, PhD

Food Science and Nutrition

Lecturer I

Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUA)

Research area: Assessment and awareness of food safety knowledge, attitude and hygiene practices among food handlers, mainly women, in smallholder and medium food enterprises.

Mosunmola Lydia Adeleke, PhD

Aquatic resources and fisheries

Lecturer II

Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA)

Research area: Adoption of capture based aquaculture for maximum fish production and food security for livelihood diversification in the coastal communities of Ondo State, Nigeria.

Oluwafunmilayo Adeleye, PhD

Animal and livestock sciences

Lecturer II

University of Ibadan

Research area: Exploration of non-conventional carbohydrates as suitable feed energy sources, and development of resistant starch products as alternatives to antibiotic growth promoters for safer poultry products.



Ronke Yemisi Aderinboye, PhD

Animal and Livestock Sciences
Lecturer I

Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta
(FUA)

Research area: Provision of year-round forage feeds for ruminants and improving efficiency of utilization of these resources, using additives in the diet.

Mary Modupe Adewole, BSc

Entomology
MSc Student

University of Ibadan

Research area: Determination of the efficacy of *Moringa oleifera* root oil extract as a cowpea seed protectant against *Callosobruchus maculatus* to reduce annual crop losses.

Ngozi Edoh, MSc

Molecular Biology
Research Scientist

National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI)

Research area: Genetic improvement of root and tuber crops while ensuring safety of biotechnology products extended to poor farmers.

Angela Obiageli Eni, PhD

Virology
Senior Lecturer

Covenant University

Research area: Increase cassava and yam tuber yields and quality through characterization of viruses infecting these crops, and development of appropriate diagnostics for certification of planting materials.

Oluyemisi Fawole, PhD

Soil Science
Senior Lecturer

University of Ilorin

Research area: Development of fungal inoculants from native soil micro flora to aid composting of agrowastes for improved soil productivity.

Ibilola Ikotun, MSc

Agricultural Economics
Research Officer I

Nigerian Stored Product Research Institute
(NSPRI)

Research area: Improvement of women agro-processors' income through proper processing of root tubers to produce better quality products with proper packaging and value addition.

Catherine Ngozi Nwokwu, BSc

Crop Science
MSc Student

Ebonyi State University

Research area: Use of molecular marker systems to develop high yielding and drought tolerant rice varieties to ensure bumper harvests for smallholder farmers, even in the face of climate change.

Helen Olayinka Ogunsuyi, PhD

Natural Resources Management
Lecturer

Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA)

Research area: Utilization of sweet potato ethanol fuel as an alternative domestic energy source for rural women and low income earners to reduce dependence on firewood and charcoal.

Ihuoma Okwuonu, MSc

Molecular Biology
Research Scientist

National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI)

Research area: Application of biotechnology approaches to improve root and tuber crops for enhanced agricultural productivity and economic empowerment of rural farmers.

Ifeoluwa Olotu, MSc

Biodiversity Conservation
Research Assistant

Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta
(FUA)

Research area: Creation of a value chain for solid waste from cassava processing through use of the waste as substrate to cultivate edible mushrooms, and extend their shelf life using different natural preservation methods.



Rachel Majekodunmi Omodamiro, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition
Principal Research Officer

National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI)

Research area: New product development and utilization of edible by-products from orange-fleshed sweet potato, okara and maize in south-eastern and western Nigeria for improvement of vitamin A status of consumers.

Idayat Oyetoro, BSc

Medicinal Plant Research
MSc Student

University of Ibadan

Research area: Assessment of the efficacy of medicinal plants in wound healing for natural product research and development of alternate drug sources.

Ade Oluwafolakemi Oyewole, MSc

Physical science

Senior Research Officer

Federal Institute of Industrial Research, Oshodi

Research area: Upgrading indigenous technologies to develop herbal soaps and cosmetics, and the substitution of conventional raw materials with locally available underutilized/unknown options to empower communities with entrepreneurial skills.

Lauretta Togonu-Bickersteth, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition

Senior Lecturer

Wavecrest College of Hospitality

Research area: Development of energy efficient methods of facilitating the improvement of processing, preserving, and promoting supply of poultry products for food security, sustainable poultry management and improved livelihood of women smallholder poultry owners.

Enoobong Udo, BSc

Agronomy

Research Fellow

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

Research area: Determination of the physiological mechanisms responsible for maize plant tolerance of low soil nitrogen environments in Nigeria.

Juliana Amaka Ugwu, PhD

Entomology

Lecturer II

Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN)

Research area: Development of an ecological and environment-friendly approach for the sustainable production of fruits and vegetables in Nigeria.

Rwanda

Vestine Musanayire, BSc

Animal and Livestock Sciences

Bacteriology Specialist

Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB)

Research area: Control of mastitis disease in dairy cows to increase milk yield.

Marguerite Niyibituronsa, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition

Researcher

Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB)

Research area: Improvement of community health and nutrition through food processing and boosting utilization.

Ange Nadine Umugwaneza, BSc

Horticulture

Postharvest and Marketing Officer

Agrocare Cooperative

Research area: Value addition of crops from sowing to market for improvement of business opportunities and community welfare.

Tanzania

Monica Kungaro, MSc

Mathematics

PhD Student

Nelson Mandela African of Science and Technology (NM-AIST)

Research area: Mathematical modeling of livestock diseases and their control for better understanding of emerging infections, identification of vulnerabilities and development effective control policies.

Mwanaisha Mkangara, BSc

Biodiversity Conservation

MSc Student

Nelson Mandela African of Science and Technology (NM-AIST)

Research area: Development of botanical acaricides from *Commiphora swynnertonii* sap to protect livestock from tick attacks.

Hildelitha Msita, PhD

Soil Science

Agricultural Research Officer

Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives

Research area: Development of agronomic packages for cassava and sugarcane to improve livelihood and food security of smallholder farmers.

Frida Nyamete, MSc

Food Science and Nutrition

Assistant Lecturer

Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA)

Research area: Development of cost-effective ways of reducing malnutrition and improving food safety in Tanzania through food science and nutrition research.

Uganda

Esther Leah Achandi, MSc

Agricultural Economics

Research Assistant

Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice)

Research area: Enhancement of women's participation and recognition of their contribution through agricultural research for development.

Juliet Akello, PhD

Food Science and Nutrition

Post-doctoral Fellow

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

Research area: Mitigating aflatoxin in maize and groundnut value chains using biological control and other management practices for improved public health, increased trade and smallholder income, and enhanced food security in Zambia.

Brenda Boonabaana, PhD

Biodiversity Conservation

Lecturer

Makerere University

Research area: Assessment of how women participate in, and benefit from, biodiversity conservation and related activities, and the constraints they face.

Juliana Mandha, BSc

Food Science and Nutrition

MSc Student

Nelson Mandela African of Science and Technology (NM-AIST)

Research area: Development of a pro-biotic beverage from mango fruit juice through fermentation with *Lactobacillus* bacteria to increase shelf-life, improve nutritional and market value and maximize profits.



Nancy Mugimba, BSc

Agricultural Economics
National Coordinator

The Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) Uganda

Research area: Identification of small-scale farmers' needs to provide support to acquire better working policy, social, and economic environments.

Sylvia Nalubwaama, MSc

Animal and livestock sciences
Assistant Lecturer
Makerere University

Research area: Development of strategies to integrate dairy cattle into smallholder organic pineapple production for improved farm productivity in Kayunga and Luwero districts in central Uganda.

Dorothy Namuyiga, BSc

Agricultural Economics
MSc Student
Makerere University

Research area: Linking farmers to markets, platform strengthening, and assessment of selling/purchasing arrangements through common bean research.

Rose Nankya, MSc

Biodiversity Conservation
Program Specialist
Bioversity International (Bioversity)

Research area: Improving the productivity and resilience of smallholder farmers through enhanced use of crop varietal diversity.

Zambia

Bridget Bwalya, PhD

Natural Resources Management
Lecturer

University of Zambia

Research area: Assessment of the practice of sustainable agriculture among smallholder farming households in Zambia.

Belinda Kaninga, MSc

Soil Science

Agricultural Research Officer

Zambia Agriculture Research institute (ZARI)

Research area: Development of appropriate soil fertility technologies to improve agricultural production and income for small-scale farmers.

Felicitas Mukumbo, MSc

Animal and Livestock Sciences

PhD Student

University of Fort Hare

Research area: Assessment of effect of low cost, non-conventional feed sources on pig growth performance, health, pork nutritional composition, meat quality and greenhouse gas emissions.

Zombe Kapata Nalupya, BSc

Agronomy

Seed Training Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock

Research area: Upscaling use of quality certified seed to increase crop production and productivity through training small-scale farmers in seed technology.

AWARD is a career-development program that equips top women agricultural scientists across sub-Saharan Africa to accelerate agricultural gains by strengthening their research and leadership skills through tailored fellowships. AWARD is a catalyst for innovations with high potential to contribute to the prosperity and well-being of African smallholder farmers, most of whom are women.

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