



AGNES: African-German Network of Excellence in Science

Message from Prof Romain Glèlè kakai
Chair of AGNES Board



Dear AGNES Members and followers

I am pleased to present the 2019 Newsletter of The African-German Network of Excellence in Science (AGNES). The year 2019 was one of sustained and continued growth for our Network with exciting advances in science underpinned by a solid capacity development of young and excellent African researchers.

As we look ahead, I am more enthusiastic and optimistic than ever about AGNES's potential to promote excellence in science and contribute to developing skills of new generation of scientists and leaders of tomorrow. I am confident that we have the right strategy and plans in place and I look forward to sharing our continued progress with you.



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Election of AGNES Governing Board and transfer of authority



From the left to the right, Prof Clement Adebooye, Prof Romain Lucas Glèlè Kakaï, and Prof Alexander Ferrein

On January 22nd, 2019, the AGNES Advisory Board members met in Yaoundé, Cameroon to elect new members of the Governing Board. The eligible voters were all the AGNES members in attendance the meeting. The election produced Prof Romain Lucas Glèlè Kakaï, Prof Alexander Ferrein, and Prof Clement Adebooye, as President, Vice-President and Secretary, respectively of the Governing Board for a 2-year term.

To finalize the process of transfer of AGNES Secretariat from Cape Town, South Africa to Abomey Calavi, Benin Republic, the new AGNES President, Prof Dr Romain Lucas Glèlè Kakaï visited Dr Heather Marco, former President of the AGNES Board in Cape Town, South Africa from 6-9 March 2019 for handing over of duties. At the meeting, activities and strategies were planned for the accomplishment of AGNES goals during the next two years.

On April 1st, 2019, Prof Romain Glèlè Kakaï, on behalf of the AGNES Governing Board appointed Mrs Corine Laurenda Sinsin and M. Carl Akoto, respectively as Office Manager and Messenger at AGNES office in Abomey-Calavi.

New members in the Advisory committee



Dr Vihotogbé Romaric (left) from National University of Agriculture, Benin and Prof Jens Gebauer (right) from the Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, Germany were nominated to join the Advisory Committee of AGNES.

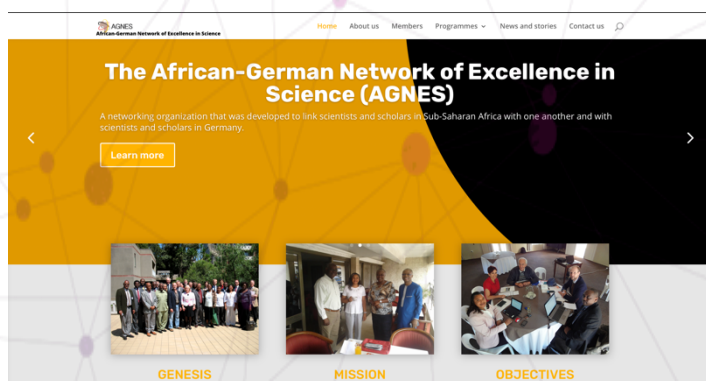
Executive committee meeting

The Governing Board meeting held at Grand Popo, Benin from August 6th-7th, 2019. Present at the meetings were, Prof Romain Glèlè Kakaï, Prof Alexander Ferrein, and Prof Clement Adebooye. The meeting discussed the following crucial matters: (1) Awareness campaign planned to hold in Botswana, (2) Agenda for the January 2020 Board meeting, (3) Relaunching of AGNES website, (4) the Cameroon Humboldt Colloquium of March

2020 and (5) the agenda of the 2020 calls for applications.

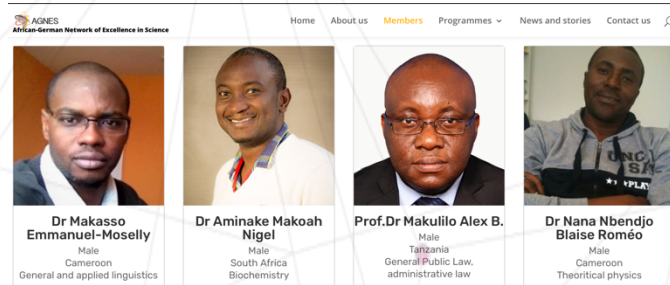


Branding AGNES for more visibility

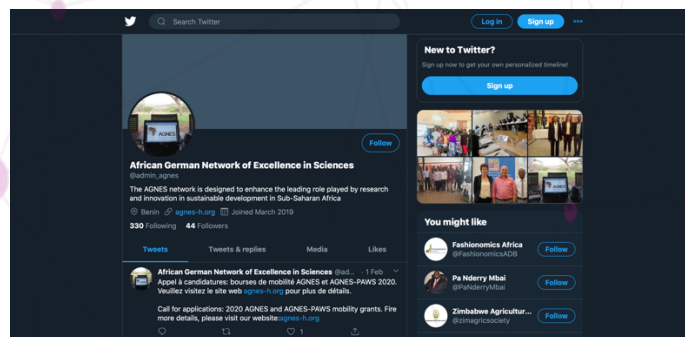


After relocation of the AGNES office from University of Cape Town to University of Abomey Calavi, the website has been revamped to a more user-friendly, professional and higher performing website in order to improve visibility of AGNES members and grantees, its programmes and knowledge sharing. The new website address is <https://agnes-h.org>.

Members have now a dedicated page on the new website (<https://agnes-h.org/members/>).



In addition to the website, AGNES office created Facebook (admin.agnes.uac) and twitter (admin_agnes) pages to improve communication on activities of AGNES Network.



AGNES and AGNES-PAWS Intra Africa mobility grants

The AGNES and the AGNES-PAWS* mobility grants were launched on March 11th, 2019 both in French and English. A total of 238 applications were received at the deadline (10 May). Out of the 238 applications received within the specified deadline, 64 were incomplete and only 174 were assessed.

The Selection committee meeting held from August 6-7, 2019 in Grand-Popo, Republic of Benin, awarded 15 AGNES-PAWS and 09 AGNES Mobility Grants. Profile of the successful candidates are presented below.

**PAWS = Programme Advocating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.*

AGNES mobility grantees



Chukwuebuka is an agricultural Soil Scientist, and a PhD student in the Department of Land Resources Management and Environmental Protection, Mekelle University Ethiopia. Chukwuebuka obtained his B.Agric (Soil Science and Environmental Management) and MSc (Soil Survey, Environmental Impact Assessment and Land use Management) degrees from Ebonyi State University and University of Nigeria Nsukka, Nigeria in 2008 and 2014 respectively. Chukwuebuka's research interest centers on the accurate quantification of soil carbon in relation to climate change. He aims to provide framework information towards the understanding of carbon capture, distribution and transfer, vital for supporting ecosystem services and improving soil productivity. Chukwuebuka has passion for mentoring young scientists with many of them getting postgraduate scholarships courtesy of his mentoring.



I am Chege Simon, a Kenyan PhD researcher at the University of KwaZulu-Natal-Durban, South Africa, undertaking research in Electrical, Electronics and Computer Engineering with a bias towards multiple access technologies and signal processing for 5G technology. My research topic titled "Resource allocation for Non-Orthogonal Multiple Access (NOMA) for 5G applications" investigates merits, demerits and applicability of current access schemes with a proposal to develop a hybrid scheme based on NOMA for spectral and energy efficient 5G systems. In the just concluded IEEE Africon 2019 conference held at Accra, Ghana, I presented my preliminary research findings in a conference paper. As a junior lecturer at Moi University, Kenya, my roles include guiding, teaching and supervision of undergraduate students.

Fèmi Emmanuel HOUNNOU was born on November 4, 1991 in Porto-Novo, Benin. In 2008, he obtained his scientific (D) baccalaureat. That same year, he was admitted to the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi (Benin) with a scholarship from the government, where he obtained his bachelor's and Master's degree respectively in 2012 and 2016, option Rural Economics, Sociology and Extension. Since 2017 he is enrolled in a PhD program in the same university, option Economics and Sociology for Rural Development, focusing on the analysis of



climate change effects on agricultural productivity and household welfare in Benin. In addition, he held a bachelor's degree in Psychology of Social and Professional Life from the same university in 2012.

Ekoa Bessa Armel Zacharie is currently enrolled as a third-year student at the University of Yaounde I, Cameroon and he specializes in recent sediments and environmental studies. He is currently work on multi-disciplinary of geology.

Armel Ekoa wrote about ten scientific publications based on sedimentology, mineralogy, geochemistry and environmental pollution on-dated. He is still in the process of identifying his learning method. In the course of this, he got the chance to involve himself in teaching research. Through this opportunity, daunting identified his own learning style by reflecting on his experiences. The essential part was to obtain a point of view on how a lecturer delivers the subject matter in his own personal manner.



Mr. Gaspary Mwanyika was born in Njombe region, Tanzania in 1979. He obtained his BSc degree (Biotechnology and Lab Sciences) from Sokoine University of

Agriculture in 2007 and the MSc degree (Health and Biomedical Sciences) from Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST) in 2016. He worked as a laboratory scientist at Mbeya Medical Research Programme between

2008-2009. In 2010, he joined Mbeya University of Science and Technology (MUST) as an assistant lecturer in the Department of Health Science and Technology. Currently, he is doing PhD studies (Molecular Biology) at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in Tanzania that focus on genomics of dengue viruses to explore its potential for the development of rapid and cost-effective diagnostic tests. Mr. Mwanyika has published 6 peer-reviewed research articles.



Sèwanou Hermann HONFO is a Ph.D student in Biometry at the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, University of Abomey-Calavi, in the Republic of Benin. He is member of the *Laboratoire de Biomathématiques et d'Estimations Forestières* (LABEF). He devoted his research to (1) improve the efficiency and accuracy of multivariate (non)linear mixed effects models; (2) develop useful R packages and (3) develop suitable statistical modeling methods for data analysis forestry and ecology. He has also experience in data analysis (agriculture, ecology and related fields).

TOVISSODE Chénangnon Frédéric is currently a PhD Student in Biometry at the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences (FSA), University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Benin. He holds a Msc degree (2017) in Statistics, major Biostatistics (FSA) and a Bachelor degree (2013) in Planning and Management of Natural Resources (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Sciences et Techniques



Agronomiques de Kétou, Benin). He is a member of the Laboratoire de Biomathématiques et d'Estimations Forestières (LABEF). His current research work focuses on extending Generalized Linear and Nonlinear mixed statistical models beyond traditional normality assumptions to more realistic models allowing better data exploitation and informed decision-making in applied biological fields. TOVISSODE Chénangnon lives in Porto-Novo, Benin.



I am Mr. ZEMO GAMO Franklin, young cameroonian, researcher at the University of Yaounde I (Cameroon) in the Department of Animal Biology and Physiology, specifically, in Animal Physiology. I obtained my master degree in 2013 and enrolled in Ph.D in 2015. In my scientific research work, I already published 7 articles and 1 book chapter in peer review scientific journals. I participated and presented my research work to several seminars in Cameroon and Africa. I am passionate by neurosciences research and I was elected in 2018 alumni president of the International Brain Research Organisation-African Regional Committee at the Yaounde Neuroscience School. My hobbies are the reading, cinema and football. scientific journals.



Agronomist, he was top of class for his Bachelor's degree in Animal Production and his Master of Science in Fisheries Management and Aquaculture. Currently, he is in the process of finalizing his PhD thesis in co-tutorship between the University of Parakou in Benin and the Félix HOUPOUET-BOIGNY University in Côte d'Ivoire. At the University of Parakou, he is an assistant-researcher at the Research author and co-author of about ten scientific publications. He has given oral communications at numerous scientific events at the national and international levels and is honored by several awards and grants. Its research disciplines are fisheries, aquaculture, fishery products quality, aquatic ecotoxicology, hydrobiology and aquatic biodiversity. PELEBE E.O. Rodrigue has a strong commitment to make science as a powerful development tool for the well-being of the people and is an active member of two Non-Governmental Organizations of Beninese law.

AGNES PAWS mobility grantees

Chidimma Juliet Mgbudom-okah was born in Port Harcourt, Nigeria and the youngest of six children. She graduated from Our Lady's Special Science School Nnobi, Anambra



State in Nigeria in 2003 and from Rivers State Polytechnics Bori in Nigeria with Higher National Diploma (Upper credit) in Science Laboratory

Technology (Chemistry/Biochemistry option) in 2011. She went further to the University of Port Harcourt Choba in Nigeria where she received her Post Graduate Diploma (Distinction) in 2015 and Master of Science degree in Biochemistry (Nutrition and Toxicology) in 2018. She is currently enrolled as a PhD student at same University in medical biochemistry with special focus on the effect of endocrine disruptors on the male gonads. She is one of the recipients of the AGNES-PAWS Mobility Grant 2019 to do part of her doctoral research at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa. She is motivated by her love for learning and achieving success as she aspires to become a renowned scientist in the field of reproductive biology and medicine and toxicology.



I am lady aged 33 and I hold a BSc. Agricultural Science Degree and an MSc in Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability. Currently, I am a final year Ph.D. student at

Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE). My thesis is entitled, “Optimizing maize yield under flood-recession cropping in the Zambezi Valley floodplains, northern Zimbabwe. Before embarking on my Ph.D. I worked as a Lecturer (2012-2016), Teaching Assistant (2008-2011) at BUSE. It is my pleasure and honour to receive the Agnes Mobility grant, awarded under the Programme Advocating Women in Science (PAWS). It has enabled me to live my dream to visit the Okavango Research Institute in Botswana, an institution working on my subject area. During the

course of my studies, I have acquired skills in setting up and managing field experiments, conducting weather, soil and crop measurements; soil and plant laboratory analyses; and statistical data analysis; and writing scientific publications.



Kuribachew Gizaw Tohiye is a PhD student in information Systems program at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. She has bachelor and master's degree in computer

science. She has been working as a senior System administrator of Ministry of education, Ethiopia, since May 2010.

Kuribachew childhood aspiration was to be a helpful person for the society in Africa. After graduating this keen interest became stronger and give birth to a vision for doing ICT research projects globally to enhance people way of life. The aspiration for contributing to the society through ICT drives her to join the Information system PhD program. By now, she is doing her PhD research in the area of knowledge management particularly personal knowledge management for better semantic memory recall. She got two publications related to her dissertation. One day, she has a dream to see herself as one of the world class professors in her field.

Lois Chinwendu Okereke is a Mwalimu Nyerere African Union scholar studying for a PhD in Pure and Applied Mathematics at the African University of Science and Technology (AUST) Abuja. Her doctoral research focuses on mathematical



models and algorithms for approximating the solutions of inverse problems arising in radiotherapy planning during cancer treatment. She takes a multidisciplinary approach encompassing several areas of Mathematics such as functional analysis, dynamical systems, differential equations, probability theory and stochastic analysis with Medical Physics and oncology to ensure clinical relevance of the work across the very limited radiotherapy facilities in Sub-Saharan Africa. She has co-authored five peer-reviewed journal publications and has spoken at international conferences in Nigeria and the United States. Miss Okereke is very passionate about teaching and research Mathematics as a tool for Africa development. She volunteers her time for community-based activities including STEM mentorship for school children.



Mrs Mary Ugunnushe Eigbobo was born in Igarra, Edo State on May 28th, 1973. She started her education in Auchi Polytechnic Staff School in Auchi, Edo State in 1979 and proceeded to

University Secondary School Ekpoma also in Edo State for her secondary education in 1984. She was admitted into Department of Biochemistry, Edo State University Ekpoma, from where she obtained a Bachelor of Science (Hons.) degree in Biochemistry in 1997. In 2011, she obtained her Master of Science in Biochemistry from Ambrose Alli University Ekpoma with an average of 75% and as best graduating master's student in Department of Biochemistry.



She was appointed an Assistant Lecturer in Department of Biochemistry, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma in November 2016. She is currently a Doctoral student in the same

University and actively involved in research, teaching and supervision at undergraduate level. Graduated from the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) in 2005 with a BSc (Hons) Applied Biology and Biochemistry. Obtained an MSc degree in Biotechnology (2015) from the University of Zimbabwe. Research work for Masters involved the efflux of chlorhexidine biocide by ATP binding cassette (ABC) transporters. Currently undertaking Doctor of Philosophy studies in consort with temporary lectureship in the Department of Biochemistry, at the University of Zimbabwe. DPhil studies involve evaluating the antibacterial and biochemical activities of phytochemicals isolated from *Triumfetta welwitschii*. Research interests in Biochemical Pharmacology focusing on; drug targets, sources of bioactive compounds and toxicology of phytochemicals.

MONI NDEDI Esther Del Florence is Ph.D Student and since 2015, Part time Junoir Lecture at the Department of Microbiology, Yaounde I University, Cameroon.



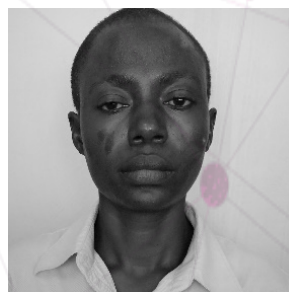
She is promoting biological activities of Natural products such as essential oils and crude extract of medicinal plants. She is working on antibacterial at Laboratory of Microbiology since 2013, antimycobacterial activity at the Laboratory for Tuberculosis Research/Biotechnology Center since 2016; anti-cancer and viricidal activities of essential oils at *Laboratoire de virologie et National de Référence des Fièvres Hémorragiques virales* at Bobo-Dioulasso in Burkina Faso since 2019.



Nadia Kalinganire is currently a Clinical Cytologist at King Faisal Hospital, Rwanda; where she performs cancer screening and diagnosis. She is also registered for PhD by research at University of Rwanda and her research

interest is molecular pathology and cytopathology. She holds a bachelor's degree (honor) in biomedical laboratory sciences (University of Rwanda, 2011) and she graduated at University of Nairobi, Kenya (2016) where she got her Master of Science in Clinical Cytology. She got a travel award to present her master's project findings at XXXI International Congress of the IAP and 28th Congress of ESP Cologne Germany 2016. She is registered in Rwanda allied health profession council as Laboratory Specialist. She is a member

of African society of clinical cytology and a member of International society of gynecological pathology.



Irene Nalumansi is a lecturer of Chemistry at Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Uganda. She received her BSc with education from MUST and

her MSc (Chemistry) from Makerere University. After nine years of service as a teacher of Chemistry and Biology at secondary school, Irene was offered a position of assistant lecturer at her alma mater MUST in 2014. In addition to teaching Inorganic Chemistry, Irene gets involved in preparation of Chemistry practicals at the department. She contributed to a research article with Assoc. Prof Jolocam Mbabazi, Prof Henry Ssekaalo, and Assoc. Prof Muhammad Ntale entitled "Effect of Various Reducants on the Spectral Characteristics of the Reduced Phosphopolyoxomolybdate Anion, and Its Application to Orthophosphate Anion Quantification in Selected Ugandan Waters" in the International Journal of Current Trends in Engineering and Technology. She has received study funding from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and fellowship support from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the African-German Network of Excellence in Science – Programme Advocating Women in Science (AGNES-PAWS) hosted by Dr. Brenda Moodley at University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Currently she is carrying out her PhD research in chemistry involving method development of orthophosphate anion quantification in water

systems. She resides in Uganda with her two sons Daniel and Darlias. She can be contacted at inalumansi@must.ac.ug.

Oluwafeyikemi Eunice POPOOLA (Nee: Balogun)

was born on the 6th of July, 1985 in Nigeria. She had her training as a Registered Nurse at the OAUTHC School of Nursing (Wesley Guild, Ilesa)



(2005). Passion for excellent Nursing services drove her to obtain a bachelor's degree in nursing at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife (2006-2010). She is a Registered Midwife (2011) and Public Health Nurse (2012). She obtained her M. Sc Degree in Nursing also at Obafemi Awolowo University (2006). She is on her Ph.D. study there. She taught at Seventh Day Adventist School of Nursing (2011-2012); worked as a Clinical Nurse with the Osun State Hospitals Management Board (2013-2017); and is currently a Lecturer II at Osun State University Department of Nursing. Her focus is in Community Health Nursing and her current research is among pregnant adolescents and teenage mothers.



I am Orugun Oluwaseun Adenike. I was born in Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria. I had my primary school education in Army Command Children's school Zaria (1986 - 1993), Secondary education in Federal Government Girls College New Bussa, Niger State

(1993-1999), and rose to becoming a Pharmacist in 2009 obtaining a BPharm degree from the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. Further quest for knowledge has inspired me to undertake postgraduate studies in Pharmacy. My core strengths are hard work, integrity and teamwork. I am happily married.



Promota Haule Linga is an assistant lecturer in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering at Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology in Tanzania. She holds a master's

Science degree in Electronic systems with Communications from University of Warwick, United Kingdom and BEng in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering from Dar es salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Currently she is a member of Wireless Communication Research Group of the University of Dar es Salaam and she is working towards a PhD degree in Telecommunication Engineering from University of Dar es Salaam. Her research interests are in Telecommunications Engineering and Radio Frequency propagation.

Taiwo, Olayombo Margaret is currently a Ph.D. student and works as a research and teaching assistant at the Department of Chemistry, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. She holds a B.Sc. (Hons) in Chemistry, 2012 and M.Sc. in



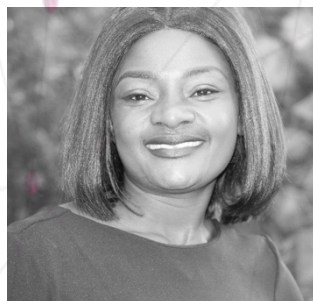
Organic Chemistry, 2016 at the University of Ibadan. Her Master's research work was on Volatile Oils from Medicinal Plants and has published her findings in *Trends in Phytochemical Research* and *World Journal of pharmacy and pharmaceutical Science*. She is interested in Isolation and Characterization of bioactive principles from Medicinal Plants for possible drug development under the Supervision of Dr. Olaoluwa O. Olaoluwa and Prof Olapeju O. Aiyelaagbe. In August 2019, she was awarded AGNES-PAWS Mobility Grant funded by AvH and BMBF to be utilized at the Department of Chemistry, Egerton University, Kenya under the Supervision of Prof Josphat Matasyoh as a support for her doctoral research.



I, Miss Tarimo, Delvina Japhet born on 13 February 1989 in Arusha, Arumeru district of Tanzania. I completed an undergraduate degree in physics and mathematics and master's degree in education from St.

John's University of Tanzania, Dodoma, Tanzania. My desire to study physics led me to pursuing another master's degree in physics from University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Currently, am pursuing my PhD programme in Physics (Materials Science option) at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. My zeal and dream to emerge one of the best in my career, and in solving some of man's problems has afforded me work with great minds in fellow students and faculty. This has resulted in an increase in my network and experience in the academia and research of which I hope to explore more. However, I see myself becoming a greater

scientist who would impact beyond imagination.



Tulimo Uushona is a 30-year-old Namibian lady, born in Uukwandongo village located in Omusati region. Tulimo is currently a 1st year PhD student at the University of

Stellenbosh. Her research topic is titled: Feeding value and biopreservative potential of *Pechuel-Loeschea leubnitziae* leaf-meal for beef production and quality. She has an MSc in Agric. (Animal Science) from Stellenbosch University (2015) and a BSc in Agriculture (Animal Science) from the University of Namibia (2012). She is a member of the South African Society for Animal Science. Tulimo has one scientific peer review publication, two under review and several conference presentations and posters. She currently lives in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

AGNES and AGNES-PAWS Junior researchers grants

Call for nominations for the 2019 AGNES and AGNES-PAWS Junior Researchers Grants was launched on September 15th, 2019. At the close of nominations, 54 applications were received. Selection meeting for the AGNES and AGNES-PAWS Junior Researcher Grants was held at BIUST, Botswana on Tuesday 21 January 2020 and chaired by Prof Alexander Ferrein, Vice-President of AGNES. Overall, 12 and 11 candidates were successful for AGNES-PAWS and general AGNES Junior Researchers Grant, respectively.

AGNES-PAWS Junior researchers

My name is Esther Laurelle Mehouwéssin DEGUENON and I am 28 years old. I aim to provide the Beninese an environment where the risk of infectious diseases is controlled and seek together with local institutions and organizations, solutions to control them. I hold a PhD in Microbiology and Pharmacology of natural substances (University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin). Thus, my research interests are related to molecular microbiology and pharmacology of natural substances. The research unit I belong to is engaged in an effective fight against pathogens by following One Health approach. My PhD was realized under a project awarded by The World Academy of Sciences (grant N°487 RG/BIO/AF/AC_G-FR3240293303). Currently, I'm the scientific coordinator of academic internships at the Research Unit in Applied Microbiology and Pharmacology of natural substances of the University of Abomey-Calavi. I have been nominated in January 2020 as Young Ambassador to Benin for the American Society for Microbiology (ASM). My actual topic is on a project funded by the Islamic Development Bank and The World Academy of Sciences (ISDB-TWAS) entitled "Profiling and Training Antibiotics Resistant Genes and Antibiotic Chemicals in Drinking water for quality life: A Nigeria-Benin collaboration." I am author and co-author of 11 scientific articles published in international scientific journals.



My name is Madeleine Nina Love Ngo Mback. I was born in Cameroon. I obtained my PhD in Biochemistry specifically in Industrial Biochemistry. The PhD graduation was on May 09, 2019 at University of Yaoundé I. From January 2016 to October 2019 I worked as research assistant at the

Antimicrobial and Biocontrol Agents Unit (AmBCau), University of Yaoundé I, where I was teaching practical courses, monitoring master and internship students work, monitoring practical sessions for graduate students, writing papers, designing and performing laboratory experiments. Now, I am Assistant Professor in Biochemistry at University of Douala, Institute of Halieutic Sciences-Yabassi. I am working on the valorization of marine compound and organisms from Cameroon coastal sites. I am a member of Cameroon BioSciences Society (CBS), Society for Medicinal Plants and Economic Development (SOMPED), Antimicrobial and Biocontrol Agent Unit (AMBcau) and Full Gospel Mission Church (FGM). I am author of 5 publications where the most recent has been partially funded by African German Network of Excellence in Science (AGNES) Fellowship 2016. I am planning to develop research centers in Africa, which will work closer to industries in order to boost industrial productions with high quality standard products.

Murielle Vanessa Tchakui is a young scientist Cameroonian of thirty years old with a background in Physics. She received Ph.D. degree in 2019 from the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon in Nonlinear dynamics. She is Assistant lecturer in Physics since January 2020 at the National Higher Polytechnic Institute of University of Bamenda, Cameroon. Her research interests include nonlinear and stochastic dynamics of coupled systems including network of electromechanical systems. She is a member of the Cameroon Physical Society. She has published six scientific articles in international peer-reviewed journals. Through her research activities, she wishes to be an actor of development in Africa.



Mobolaji Titilawo, born 34 years ago, hails from Nigeria. She obtained her BSc, MSc and PhD in Microbiology in the year 2008, 2014 and 2017 respectively from Obafemi

Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Her area of specialization is Fungal Biotechnology. Dr. Titilawo was employed as an Assistant Lecturer in the year 2015, and presently a Lecturer II in the Department of Microbiology, Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria. Recently, she was a recipient of the ICAN and UK Research Council (twice) travel grants to make presentations at international conferences in

South Africa, India and Thailand. She is currently a grantee of the prestigious 2019 AGNES-PAWS award. Some of her research projects includes, 'Studies on Nigerian wild Ectomycorrhizal and Endomycorrhizal Fungi', Biocontrol of Postharvest Fungal Deteriogens' and 'Quality Assessment and Treatment of Contaminated Waters using Macrofungus Permeated Substrates'. She belongs to many professional bodies including the American Society for Microbiology, Society for Applied Microbiology, Mycology Society of Nigeria, Nigerian Society for Microbiology amongst others. To her credit, she has 6 published scientific articles in reputable international journals and also co-authored two mycology textbooks. Her researches focus on solving the increasing challenge of food insecurity in the sub-Saharan Africa, especially Nigeria.



My name is Rima Beesoo and I come from the small island of Mauritius. I recently obtained my PhD in Applied Marine Biochemistry from the University of Mauritius in 2019. During my PhD, my research interest focused primarily on the antimicrobial and anticancer potential of natural products derived from selected marine organisms. I am currently a junior researcher in the field of Biochemistry and

Physiology at the University of Muenster in Germany funded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. During my research journey, I had the opportunity to work on various collaborative projects on marine natural products and anticancer research in South Africa, Scotland and England and as a result of these collaborations, I co-authored 7 publications. So far, I have won several prestigious accolades including the African German Network of Excellence in Science Mobility grant, UNESCO MARS Best Mauritian women researcher award and L'Oreal-UNESCO for Women in Science Fellowship 2018. In parallel, I am a member of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Scientific Association and Women in Science for the Developing World. Overall, my mission is to promote marine natural product research in Africa and the development of marine pharmaceuticals for cancer and infectious diseases.



Dr. Salome Amarachi Chime is from Nigeria, age 40 years, and holds a Ph. D in dosage forms designing and drug delivery from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in 2017. She is

an expert in the formulation development of novel lipid-based delivery systems of various drugs. She is presently a senior lecturer in the department of Pharmaceutical Technology and Industrial Pharmacy, University of Nigeria Nsukka where she joined as a graduate assistant in February 2010. Her research areas include development of lipid-based delivery systems of antidiabetics, antimalarials, antiviral drugs, and some nonsteroidal anti-

inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS). She has also designed various dosage forms of herbal drugs viz: herbal tablets, phytosomes and lipospheres. She is a member of the Organization for women in Science for Developing World (OWSD), National Association of Pharmacist in academics (NAPA) and Pharmaceutical society of Nigeria. She has over forty published scientific articles in international peer-reviewed journals and has three book chapter contributions. Her academic research ambitions are to develop drug delivery systems that would help eliminate the problem of parasitic resistance to first line antimalarial drugs, and to develop effective natural remedy for the management of diabetes mellitus.

I am Dr. (Mrs.) Uchechukwu Susan Oruma, a 39 years old senior lecturer from Nigeria. I obtained PhD in Inorganic Chemistry of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in October 2017. Currently, I am a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.



My research interest is synthesis, characterization and biological studies of new Inorganic Pharmaceuticals. This is geared towards synthesis and characterization of organic ligands and their corresponding complexes. The synthesized compounds are tested for their antimicrobial and antimalarial activities. This research has produced nine publications in international peer reviewed journals and six in local journals. Of particular interest is my publication in Journal of Heterocyclic

Chemistry titled “Synthesis, Characterization, Antimicrobial Screening, and Computational Studies of a Tripodal Schiff Base Containing Pyrimidine Unit”. This work has been awarded patent (RP: NG/P/2018/134) in 2018. In May 2015, I was sponsored by the Royal Society of Chemistry to the 1st Tunisian Chemical Society conference held in Hammamet. My research ambition is to produce new biologically active compounds that could be used for both medical and pharmaceutical purposes in Africa to combat diseases. I am member of the Chemical Society of Nigeria.

I am Olajumoke Adeyeye, a 43-year-old female Nigerian. Currently, I am a Research Fellow at the Centre for Gender and Social Policy Studies, Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife, Nigeria. In



2018, I completed a Doctoral degree in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria. Since 2009, I have worked in multicultural and multi-religious regions across Africa especially in Nigeria, Tanzania, and Ghana focusing on gender, food and nutrition security, youth and women empowerment. I have in-depth understanding and hands-on-skill on the use of different gender and women empowerment frameworks especially the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI). Between 2017 and 2019, I served as a gender expert for the Bill and Melinda Gates

Foundation sponsored Nigeria Baseline and Varietal Monitoring Survey (NIBAS), a three-tier collaboration between OAU, IITA and NISER, Ibadan, Nigeria. Currently, I am the Principal Investigator of the IDRC sponsored project which seeks to examine the effectiveness of apprenticeship-based intervention among graduates in reducing the burden of unemployment in Nigeria. I have co-authored 10 academic journal publications: 5 each in international and local journals; written several technical papers, attended several workshops and presented papers at conferences locally and internationally. I am a member of the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSDW), among others. I hope to apply my experience to develop tools and strategies for effective integration of gender in agriculture and other development programmes in Nigeria and Africa in general. In addition, I will work with other change agents to build a critical mass of researchers that can conduct evidence-based research for Africa’s sustainable development.



Dr. Marthe Montcho is currently an associate researcher at Laboratory of Applied Ecology of the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences (University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin Republic). In April 2018, she holds a PhD from the same University in Animal Husbandry and Livestock Production Systems. Her research interests are Pastoralism, Climate change, Livestock systems, Livestock and environment, Gender and Economic of Livestock systems. She has received several awards including IsDB - TWAS Fellowship in Sustainability Sciences (2019), SLGA Research Grant "Strengthening Capacities for Land Governance in Africa" (2019), OWSD Fellowship "Organization of Women in Science for Developing World" (2015) and WAAPP Research Fellowship "West Africa Program of Agricultural Productivity" (2013). Marthe has also completed two scientific research internships at Livestock Development and Environment Research Laboratory of University Nazi Boni (Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso). She has also attended many scientific symposiums and

training courses on "Science & Diplomacy" and "Research Communications & Policy Engagement". Her ambition is to contribute to the development of Africa through her research results and its policy briefs and innovation platform. Marthe believes that scientific research is the key of Africa' development.

Dr. Ir. Tognisse Anique Godjo is a 35 years old young woman born in Benin. She is an Agronomist; Nematologist who developed an early interest for research especially for Crop Protection subjects. Having a



background in Nematology, Molecular Biology and Plant Protection, she pursued her studies at a doctoral degree in Biology at Ghent University (Belgium) on a topic related to biological control of insect pests using entomopathogenic nematodes. Her doctoral research works were funded by a very competitive special research grant obtained from Ghent University (BOF grant, 2013-2017). She graduated on April 2018 with a highest honor. She published three A1 Articles in good International peer-reviewed journals such as Archives of Microbiology (Springer), Biological control (Elsevier), Nematology (Brill) and four in International Conferences Proceedings such as the Belgium Society for Microbiology Meeting and the 69th International Symposium on Crop Protection (2017, Belgium), and local journals. This is an impressive record for a female junior scientist in

our context. Dr. Ir. Godjo is progressively developing strong theoretical and methodological skills that make her a very promising young scientist to be supported. She has been involved in several research projects in Benin and Belgium such as CORAF/WE CARD, ESCIP, etc. Her research interests include: I) investigating different aspects of entomopathogenic nematodes as Biocontrol agents of insect pests, II) Plant Parasitic Nematodes, III) Plant pathology, IV) Molecular Biology, etc. She is a member of the European Society of Nematology (ESN) and the Nigerian Society of Nematology (Nisson).



Dr. Esther Omah, aged 45 is a Nigerian with academic discipline in Food Science and Technology. Her Ph.D is in the field of Cereals, Legumes and Tuber processing Technology awarded by the University

of Nigeria, Nsukka on 16th May, 2019. She was awarded the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) - Industry Technology Transfer Fellowship (NITTF) for the program. With the award, the research was sponsored by Nestle Nigeria Plc. She is Lecturer I in Food Science and Technology Department since October, 2016 at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Her research projects centered on production and quality evaluation of response surface programmed extruded complementary foods from cereal-legume flour blends; and on the use of cereal-legume flour blends in combination with recovered agro waste (cassava cortex) for the production of biscuits and extruded snacks. She is

a member of the Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology (NIFST) and also belongs to the Society for Applied Microbiology. She has eleven scientific articles in international peer-reviewed journals and two in local journals. Her research ambitions are in the areas of food processing, product development and food and nutrition security especially with respect to combating malnutrition amongst children in Africa.

My name is WANDJI Bibiane Aimée. I am 40 years old and I am a Cameroonian. My academic discipline is Animal Biology, especially the animal Physiology. I hold my PhD in pain and inflammation



phytopharmacology, in November 2017. Since 2013 I work as a part time lecturer in Biology at the University of DSCHANG, and also as part time traditional medicine practitioner. I have been involved in natural product pharmacology on gastric ulcers, pain and inflammation. Member of Cameroon Forum for Biological Sciences, University of Dschang, Cameroon since 2008, I have published four scientific articles in international peer-reviewed journals and one in a local journal.

As far as my academic or research ambition is concerned, I want to verify and validate scientifically the curative effects of some phytomedicines used in traditional African medicine, more particularly in Cameroon, and determine their mechanisms of action and their toxicity. My research will therefore contribute to

the implementation of traditional improved and / or standardized medicines which can be used without fear in clinic to treat patients suffering from chronic pain and other pathologies.

AGNES Junior researchers



Dr. Abeni Beshiru aged 30 was born in Nigeria. He is a microbiologist with a PhD in Environmental and Public Health Microbiology from University of Benin, Benin City Nigeria in 2018. He has been awarded the Alexander von

Humboldt Foundation Junior Research Fellowship, DAAD Research Grants - Short-Term Grants Fellowship, and Professor Oyewale Tomori National Young Scientist Prize in Microbiology. He is currently a Lecturer II in the Department of Microbiology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Western Delta University, Oghara, Delta State Nigeria since 2018. His research profile includes: microbial ecology; microbial pathogenesis and disease transmission; antibiotic resistance, dissemination and mitigation strategies; food safety; water quality and public health. He has published 32 scientific articles with 14 in international, 12 in national and 6 in local peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Beshiru hopes to be one of Africa's research leaders in the near future carrying out cutting-edge research with a clear African

dimension. His work has significantly influenced the growth of international scholarship and research on priority global issues while enhancing collaboration internationally and creating a shared knowledge platform that impacts lives locally and globally. He has proven collaborative style commitment to academic excellence with integrity.

Akachukwu Ibezim was born in Aba, Nigeria in 1985. He is a chemist and obtained his PhD in Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD) under the Department of Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Chemistry in 2018 from the



University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN). In 2014 he trained in manipulations of CADD tools in the lab of Ass. Prof Fidele Ntie-Kang at University of Buea, Cameroon and had a short stay at the University of California San Diego, USA in Prof Ruben Abagyan and Ass. Prof Jair L. Siqueira-Neto labs for six months in 2017 as TETFund doctoral fellow. Currently, Ibezim is a senior academic staff in the Department of Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Chemistry, UNN and his research strength is on the use of structure-based virtual screening techniques to discover small molecule inhibitors of protein functions, protein-protein interaction, including allosteric inhibitors. He has over 30 published scientific articles in international peer-reviewed journals, 2 in local journals, 1 published book chapter and 1 book. His research interests are drug discovery and development for protozoan diseases especially tropical diseases and cancer.



Dr Ogoudje Isidore AMAHOWE is 41 years old and was borne in Benin (West Africa). He is a wildlife and plant ecologist with 15 years of professional

experience in Forest, wildlife, and conservation planning. He has 10 years of research experiences in the field of ecology and the use of quantitative tools. He has completed his PhD degree in Forestry at University of Parakou in Benin in 2017. In 2018, He visited Gaoue Lab at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville whereby he learnt about models in population ecology. In 2019, he has conducted researches on mangrove forests in Benin. Dr AMAHOWE is currently working for the National Forest Office and also as a visiting Lecturer at University of Parakou teaching Wildlife and Protected areas security and Biostatistics. He has conducted many researches and projects funded by Charlotte Fellows Program in 2010, International Foundation for Sciences in 2014, and Global Biodiversity Information Facility in 2015, AGNES Mobility Grant for Junior Researchers in 2016. He is also a member of the World Commission of Protected Areas (WCPA) and has published 13 papers in peer reviewed journals. His ambition is to forecast the Population viability analysis of threatened species.



Dr. Franklin Chimaobi Kenechukwu (a Nigerian, born in 1981) received his Ph.D in Pharmaceutics (Drug-Delivery) in 2017, from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN), where he is currently a Senior Lecturer. He has co-authored >100 scientific articles/reviews and book chapters and has delivered presentations at conferences/workshops/symposia/summits worldwide.

Dr. Kenechukwu has received several fellowships/awards/grants including Molecular Approaches to Malaria Travel Award (Australia, 2020), Wellcome Center for Anti-infectives Research Travel Award (UK, 2019), Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Global Health Travel Award (USA, 2018), Association of Commonwealth Universities Early Career Grant (UK, 2017), Clinical Nanomedicines Fellowship (Switzerland, 2017) and PolyChar/UNL Fellowship (USA, 2015).

Dr. Kenechukwu won the Vice-Chancellor's Overall Best University Graduating and Best Graduating Faculty Ph.D Student Postgraduate Prize Awards at

UNN (2017). He was also the Overall Best Departmental Graduating Student at UNN in his Degree (2007). Dr. Kenekwuwu won 2019 AGNES Grant for Junior Researchers (Germany), 2019 TETFund NRF Grant Award (Nigeria) at UNN and CNPq-TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowship in Brazil (2018-2019). He has been editor/reviewer for fourteen international journals. He belongs to Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (London), Pharmaceutical/Nanomedicine Society of Nigeria, etc. His academic/research ambitions are to develop engineered nanomedicines for treatment of infections/diseases besetting Africa.



Dr John Dike Nwabueze OGBONNA, 40 years, a Nigeria in Pharmacy Discipline and Doctoral Field, Drug Delivery (Pharmaceutics) from University of Nigeria, Nsukka, 2018 has the

following outstanding scholarly achievements: Trialect Priority Category award 2019; NEEDS Assessment grant 2018 sponsored by Federal Government of Nigeria at Universidade do Porto; Erasmus Mundus Doctoral Fellow 2016 at Universidade do Porto, Porto, Portugal; TWAS Doctoral Student 2015 at SNJB's Shriman Sureshdada Jain College of Pharmacy, Chandwad, Nashik-India, Sponsored by The World Academy of Science and TEDFUND award 2015 Sponsored by Tertiary Education Trust Fund, Nigeria. He has carried out research project(s) in Green formulations of some antimalarial drugs using molecular hybrids of gelatin B and polysaccharide from the roots of *Cissus populnea* and Formulation design and characterizations of anti-malaria-based

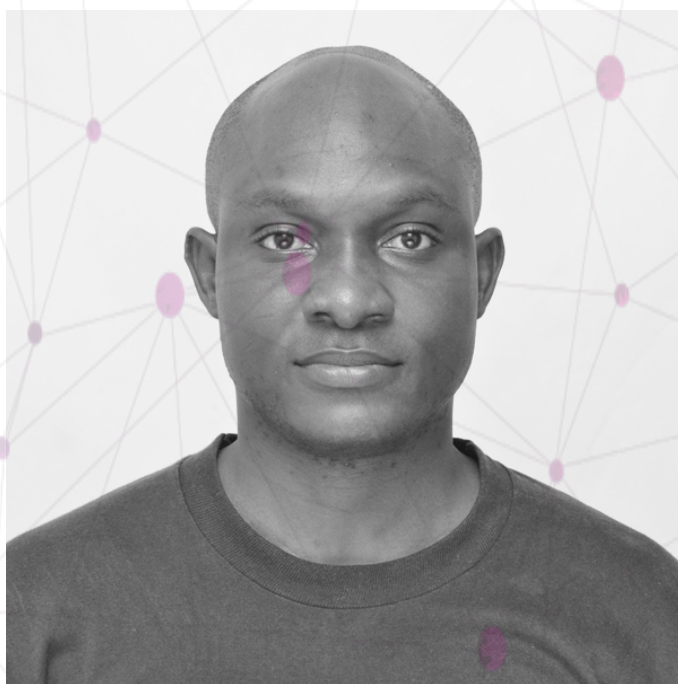
formulations using lipids and polymers. He is a member of the following Associations; Nanomedicine Society of Nigeria (NSN), Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN), Nigerian Association of Pharmacists in Academia (NAPA) and American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS). He has published scientific articles in international journals (30), local journals (5) and book chapters or books (9). His research ambition(s) for Africa is Development of biomaterials using local plants and herbals for drug delivery.

Dr. Kangbéni Dimobe is Burkinabè born on 21/01/1981 in Lomé (Togo). Kangbéni's background is Biologist, with an MS.c in Applied Plant Biology from University of Lomé and a Ph.D in Botany and Plant



Ecology from University Joseph Ki-Zerbo (Burkina Faso) within the program WASCAL (West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use). Since 2019, he is a lecturer at the University of Dédougou (Burkina Faso). Kangbéni previously worked for WASCAL as project associate researcher from 2017 to 2019. He has 11 years' experience in international research projects as he has been involved in several projects such as WASCAL Core Research Program 2.7, RIPIECSA and WorldBank project on Disaster Risk Reduction in ECOWAS countries. His research interest spans across the fields of Climate change, Natural resources management, Biogeography, Conservation, Forest estimation, Biomass modelling, Ecosystem services and Functional

ecology. He has authored and co-authored more than forty publications including journal articles and book chapters (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=E044AWgAAAAJ&hl=fr>) and reviews for over fifteen international peer-reviewed journals in diverse fields. As a lecturer, his ambition is (i) to establish long-term contacts and collaborations with colleagues working on related subject and (ii) use his skills to train and mentor students in research in Africa.



I am Dr. Okey Francis Obi, 37 years of age and from Nigeria. My academic background is in Agricultural and Bioresources Engineering, and I obtained my PhD in Forest Engineering from the University of Canterbury (UC), New Zealand in 2018. My scholarly activities have been recognised through awards including Graham Whyte Prize for Best Graduating PhD Student in Forestry, TW Adams Scholarship in Forestry, Rayonier Matariki Forests PhD Scholarship, College of Engineering PhD

Scholarship, and Owen Browning Scholarships in Forestry all from UC, and the award for 2nd Best Poster Presentation at the New Zealand Institute of Forestry Conference, 2017. I currently work as a lecturer at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. My research has centred on the utilization of agricultural and forest residues as an alternative source of clean energy in the form of briquettes and pellets for household heating applications. A part of my research has been on the characterization of bio-products and optimization of forest harvesting systems. I currently have 30 research articles in reputable journals and 11 conference publications. My long-term research goal centres on biomass utilization with focus on emissions emanating from the combustion of biomass in households across Africa.

Akinkunmi OKEKUNLE is a Nigerian and Researcher at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He graduated with a PhD in Nutrition and Food Hygiene from Harbin Medical University China in 2018 with expertise in



Nutritional Epidemiology and Nutrigenomics. He is interested in using longitudinal data involving dietary factors, metabolite profiling, gut microbiome features, clinical data, biochemical indices, anthropometric measurements to identify population(s) at risk of nutritionally related public health problems. He hopes to build a large multi-ethnic epidemiological cohort of African ancestry to provide insights and solutions to nutritionally related public health problems in the context of

African ethnophilosophy. He has published over 11 peer-reviewed articles in reputable international journals, won several awards and scholarships including the Chinese Government Scholarship. In 2019, he won the postdoctoral fellowship of the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He has a keen interest in mentoring students for excellent scientific outputs. His hobbies are photography and travelling.



Pedzisai Maedza is a 33-year-old Zimbabwean Performance Scholar. He holds a PhD from the Centre for Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa and the Anthropology and African Studies Department, Johannes Gutenberg University-Mainz, Germany awarded in 2018. Maedza also holds a MA in Drama from the University of Cape Town awarded in 2014 and a BA Honours in Theatre Arts from the University of Zimbabwe awarded in 2010. Both degrees were awarded with distinction. His Cultural Memory work explores the intersection of Performance, Memory and Genocide Studies in Sub-Saharan Africa. Maedza is the author of a monograph, *Performing Asylum: Theatre of*

Testimony in South Africa (African Studies Centre-Leiden), three book chapters and seven articles in international peer reviewed journals such as *TDR: The Drama Review*, *African Identities*, *Social Dynamics*, *South African Theatre Journal* and *Popular Music and Society*. Maedza's work has been translated into Dutch and Portuguese and has received multiple international awards, such as the International Federation for Theatre Research - New Scholars Award and the African Studies Centre-University of Leiden's Africa Thesis Award. His research has been supported by the DAAD, the Canon Collins Trust and the Social Science Research Council - Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa amongst others.

My name is Dr. Richard Daniel Lyamuya. I'm 49 years old born in Tanzania. From 1997-1999 I joined with the College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka where I pursued my diploma in Wildlife Management.



Currently, I hold a PhD in Biology awarded from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim Norway on the 8th September 2017. Since then, I have been involved in writing a book, papers, reviewing manuscripts and presenting our research findings in both national and international scientific conferences. Now I serve as the Research Officer at the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI). In this position, I have worked with various research projects such as the African wild dogs conservation, Human-carnivores conflict, Wildlife road kill, IPBES

– Road ecology, large mammals surveys, Biodiversity and human-wildlife Interface and the AfricanBioServices (ABS) which mostly were conducted in the Serengeti ecosystem. Moreover, I have published about 14 scientific articles in international peer reviewed journals, 10 articles in Conference Proceedings and four book chapters in edited book. My academic/research ambition(s) are to acquire advanced knowledge and skills in pursuing research in Africa especially those which need immediate novel solutions to safeguard our nature for the sake of our next generations.



Tosin Olasehinde was born on 26th of June 1985 in Lagos, Nigeria. Dr. Olasehinde bagged his PhD in Biochemistry (Functional Foods, Nutraceuticals and Neurochemistry) from the University of Fort Hare Alice South Africa in September 2019. He is a recipient of The World Academy of Science and National Research Foundation of South Africa PhD fellowship in 2016. He is also recipients of

international travel awards from International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) and International Society for Neuroscience. He is a Senior Research Scientist at the Federal Institute of Industrial Research Oshodi Lagos Nigeria.

Tosin has been involved in Functional food and nutraceutical research geared towards possible exploitation of bioactive compounds from plants and marine seaweeds for the management of degenerative diseases. Current focus areas include Neurotoxicity of some environmental pollutants especially heavy metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. He has an ambition to unravel the neuroprotective mechanisms of some naturally-occurring bioactive compounds present in some plants in Africa. He is an active member of Nutrition Society of Nigeria, Southern Africa Neuroscience Society and International Society for Neurochemistry. Dr. Olasehinde has published about fifty-one (51) articles and two (2) book chapters in reputable journals most of which are indexed in ISI and Scopus.

Partnering for more impact

Meeting with MIASA staff



AGNES President, Prof Romain Lucas Glèlè Kakaï met with the MIASA staff and discussed possible collaboration in humanities and social sciences. As part of this partnership, AGNES is committed to disseminate MIASA fellowships (<https://bit.ly/32IOAg2>) calls for applications. AGNES members are eligible, can serve as reviewers, and can also be invited to join the Selection Committee.

Workshop on African-German Cooperation in Education, Science and Research



On official invitation of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Prof Romain Glèlè Kakaï, President of AGNES Governing

Board participated in the Expert Workshop on Future African-German Cooperation in Education, Science and Research from 18-19 June 2019 in Berlin. During the workshop, partners and stakeholders discussed ideas for setting up an “African-German Network for Synergies in Research, Transfer, Innovation and Employability.” The objective of the planned project is to link existing African German science structures (i.e. DAAD Centres of Excellence) and to develop further capacities in the areas of academic training, research, and vocational training.

Sensitizing to extend the network

Meeting with African Humboldtians



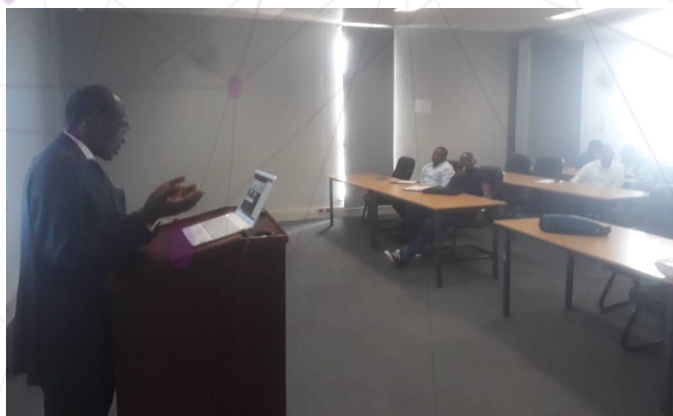
Former and current AGNES Chairpersons met with African alumni of AVH on the sidelines of Humboldt award winners' forum in Bonn (16-20 October 2020). This meeting aims to update their knowledge on AGNES, its programs and activities. The gathering sensitized the alumni and alumnae to join the AGNES. They took the opportunity to discuss the coaching of young African scholars to be able to package successful application for AVH fellowships.

Sensitization programs



On May 23rd, 2019, the AGNES President, Prof Romain Glèlè Kakaï, organized a sensitization program at the University of Parakou (Benin) where he explained AGNES goals, grants opportunities to young researchers from the postgraduate school.

Moreover, Awareness creation workshop also took place in Botswana on 22 January 2020 (courtesy of Prof Zachary Getenga).



On November 8th, 2010, a sensitization workshop on AGNES and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation has also been organized at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Kumasi, Ghana) by Prof Romain Glèlè Kakaï. This workshop brought together MSc and PhD students and Young Postdoctoral lecturers/Research Fellows of the University.



During the workshop, The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and AGNES have been introduced to the participants, as well as their funding programmes. AGNES President took the opportunity to fully explained eligibility and criteria of selection for the different programmes and gave advices to the young scholars for a successful application.



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