



Elibariki Raheli Nazayoeli

2020 One Planet Laureate Candidate

Position

Research Officer

Institution

Tanzania Industrial Research and
Development Organization

Country

Tanzania

Education

MSc, Environmental Science,
Dr. YS Parmar University of
Horticulture and Forestry, India

Mentor

Dr. Anthony A. kimaro, Country
Representative, International
Centre for Research in
Agroforestry (ICRAF)-Tanzania
Country Program

Area of research

Carry out applied research on
industrial inputs, raw materials,
and products.

Elibariki Raheli Nazayoeli, born in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental sciences and management from the Sokoine University of Agriculture and a Master's degree in environmental science from Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry in India. She was raised by her uncle, who also became her mentor and cheerleader, ensuring she worked hard at school.

During visits to the village as a child and while working with two international agriculture organizations after her bachelor's degree, Elibariki saw the hardships that women farmers went through in their farming enterprises and raising families. Memories from that fuel her research to help farmers increase their incomes while preserving the environment.

A Research Officer with the Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Organization, Elibariki is looking for firewood alternatives as sources of energy to save women the time spent fetching firewood to concentrate on agricultural production. The focus of her research is the use of crop residues to make biomass briquettes.

Many youth and women in Tanzania make briquettes using crop by-products, but many people still use charcoal and firewood. Raheli endeavors to make briquettes of superior quality since she has the knowledge and modern laboratory facilities at her disposal.

Her goal is to have the technology widely accepted by society and adopted by rural women.

Elibariki has identified over 18 local producers of biomass briquettes in different regions of Tanzania and collected 15 samples for laboratory testing. The aim is to identify the quality of these briquettes and find ways of improving their quality.

Elibariki's research also addresses the dangers of cooking over an open fire, deforestation, and the risks of sexual harassment when women travel long distances in search of firewood. Additionally, she is a co-investigator in a project aiming to build the capacity of the leather industry in Tanzania.

Elibariki chose science subjects in high school since she perceived science as a channel to solve societal problems. She wanted to be a part of the solution to fight deforestation and the challenges facing farmers.

For her career aspiration, she sees a future of leading a significant research project solving her community's challenges and commercializing the products from her work. Through the One Planet Fellowship's networking opportunities, she will build her capacity as a scientist and acquire the skills to write good proposals, conduct credible research, and share her work.

Some of her younger colleagues already perceive her as a role model, while others are yearning to apply for the Fellowship, recognizing that they do not have the skills it offers. Elibariki will improve her institution's research outputs by sharing her new skills and knowledge and mentor others.

The lack of funds for research is a problem Elibariki encounters. Like in most African countries, her government does not prioritize research funding, and in most cases, researchers like her have to seek funding outside the country. As a female scientist with a young family, she also faces difficulties balancing her work and taking care of her children.

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Elibariki Raheli Nazayoeli is one of the growing number of candidates selected to participate in the One Planet Fellowship. The One Planet Fellowship is a career development initiative that is building a robust pipeline of highly connected, inter-generational scientists equipped to use a gender lens to help Africa's smallholder farmers cope with climate change. The One Planet Fellowship is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the BNP Paribas Foundation, the European Union and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC). African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) and Agropolis Fondation are jointly implementing the Fellowship.

Do you have any further questions? Send an email to : oneplanet.award@cgiar.org

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