



Position

Researcher

Institution

University of Lomé

Country

Togo

Education

PhD, Economic Sciences,
University of Lomé, Togo

Mentor

Dr. Owodon Afo-Loko, Research
Assistant at the Faculty of
Economics and Management,
University of Kara

Research Area

Agricultural economics and
climate change in sub-Saharan
African countries.

Sika Mazignada Limazie

2020 One Planet Laureate Candidate

Sika Mazignada Limazie was born in 1989, in Kouméa, Togo. A teacher's daughter, she grew up in this region, where she stayed until 2014.

Sika obtained her high school diploma in maths and natural sciences in 2009. She enrolled in a program at the Faculty of Economics and Management of the University of Kara and obtained a Bachelor's degree in Macroeconomics and Development in 2012.

The following year, the young graduate completed a three-month internship at Mutuelle Régionale d'Epargne et de Crédit des Artisans (Regional Association for Artisan Savings and Credit - MURECA-Kara).

Her skills were soon recognized, and she was appointed as a cashier, a position she remained in from 2013 to 2014.

In 2015, Sika resumed her studies and applied for a postgraduate program at the University of Lomé, Togo. She obtained her Master's degree in Economic Analysis and Policy in 2017.

From 2017 to 2019, Sika gained extensive professional experience as a research assistant for the Centre for Research and Training in Economics and Management Sciences (CERFEG) of the University of Lomé and as a research assistant at the Bureau d'Etudes Comptable, Economique et Commerciale (Accounting, Economic and Commercial

Research Office - BECEC-TOGO).

In 2018, she enrolled for a thesis in Economics at the University of Lomé.

She was rewarded for her efforts with the Research Training for Young Francophone Economists program award from the Observatory of the Economic Francophonie at the University of Montreal.

She was also awarded an international study grant for four months of research (1 October 2019 - 31 January 2020) at the Economics and Management Sciences Training and Research Unit (UFR-SEG) of Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Côte d'Ivoire.

During this trip to Abidjan, she heard about the One Planet Fellowship from one of her compatriots, a Laureate Candidate, in 2019, and she immediately applied.

Sika's research is based on agricultural economics and climate change in sub-Saharan African countries.

It also focuses on the economic impact of climate change on the welfare of rice producers and consumers in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Her work also involves analyzing the cost-effectiveness of strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

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She gives two main reasons for this decision: low rice production is the determinant factor in the quantity of rice imported from West Africa.

The second is that climate change will further exacerbate low rice production because rice farming in West Africa relies on rainfed agriculture. Appropriate measures should be taken to help rice farmers adapt to climate variations to be better prepared for the impact of climate change.

Sika wants to design a bio-economic optimization model to assess the potential future effects of climate change on rice production and trade in the ECOWAS region.

She aims to research a university or institution committed to ensuring sustainable development in agriculture and fighting climate change.

As a Ph.D. student in Economic Sciences, Sika's initial short-term objective is to finish her thesis by 2021. She is delighted to be selected for the One Planet Fellowship, and she hopes to acquire new research skills in climate change and agriculture.

She believes that the leadership training, the interactions with other researchers, and the mentoring offered by the program will be precious.

Sika is planning to pass on the knowledge gained during the program with her fellow Ph.D. students. Additionally, she hopes that her new mentoring skills will make her a better mentor to Master's students from now on.

When Sika started her thesis, she was short of funds and vainly applied for many calls for projects.

Her parents have supported her so far, but she hopes to obtain funding or a scholarship through contacts she makes on the Fellowship. The Covid-19 pandemic has limited her attendance at conferences which are good networking opportunities.

Sika Mazignada Limazie 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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