



Position

Lecturer

Institution

University of Zambia

Country

Zambia

Education

MSc, Aquaculture, Lilongwe
University of Agriculture and
Natural Resources (LUANAR),
Malawi

Mentor

Dr. Mubanga Kabwe, Lecturer
and Researcher, University of
Zambia

Area of research

Use of Integrated Agriculture-
Aquaculture Systems (IAAS)
to increase food production
sustainably.

Nambeye Eva

2020 One Planet Laureate Candidate

Nambeye Eva is a lecturer and researcher at the University of Zambia. She holds a Master of Science degree in aquaculture from Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Malawi. Born and raised in Lusaka, Zambia, among six children, Nambeye took schoolwork more seriously than most children her age would. Her parents' encouragement, along with seeing the struggle they went through to cater to the family's needs, motivated her to do well in school to have a different life.

Growing up in a city, Nambeye was not exposed to agriculture until she enrolled in university for her undergraduate studies. She had hoped to study medicine, which she thought was a sure path to employment once she was out of college. The stiff competition meant that only about 50 out of the nearly 800 applicants got enrolled in it. She ended up taking life sciences majoring in animal science.

Nambeye's research focuses on integrated agriculture and aquaculture by exploiting the synergy between the two for a sustainable increase in food production. For example, what is considered waste or by-products from crop or livestock farming systems could be used to feed fish.

In contrast, wastewater from fish production could serve as manure or irrigation water for crops.

Nambeye has seen the valuable agricultural resources that farmers have but do not know how to use through her farm visits. Such opportunities have also made her aware of how fish, crops, and livestock farmers struggle with water shortages.

She, therefore, desires to teach farmers how to harvest and efficiently use water for fish farming and irrigation of crops, which also ultimately reduces the waste going into the environment. Other areas of her research work include nutrition-sensitive aquaculture, improved fish value chain, and cost-effective fish production systems.

Nambeye aspires to be a global champion in promoting initiatives that advance sustainable, nutrition-sensitive, and climate-smart food production systems. She knows that the One Planet Fellowship, particularly mentorship and advanced science skills training, will help her grow as a scientist as she plans to embark on her Ph.D. studies.

She will also benefit from training in communication and presentation skills which she requires in her leadership roles. Although she will be involved in teaching and publishing, she intends to focus on research and working with farmers.

The skills Nambeye will acquire from the

One Planet Fellowship will also benefit her institution. Besides encouraging her colleagues to apply for the fellowship, she will be involved in mentoring younger colleagues and students and establishing a mentoring structure at the institution. The networking opportunities will expose her and her institution to developments in her area, fostering collaboration in research and seeking funds.

Nambeye has faced some challenges: obtaining funding for research, taking care of a young family, and working simultaneously. This was particularly difficult when she had just embarked on her current career path. She had a heavy workload and was required to travel a great deal, and luckily, her mother traveled with her to take care of the baby. Her husband also has been a source of support, helping out at home and ensuring that the children are not neglected.

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Nambeye Eva 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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