## **Profile**



# Leadership Program for Emerging African Women in Science

Advancing Aquatic Health for Sustainable Development



This program has empowered me to confidently pursue leadership roles

Kezzy Besa is a master's student at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, focusing on aquatic animal health and ecosystem management. Her research aims to reduce fish diseases and enhance aquaculture production in Africa, which is crucial for food security and sustainable development goals.

Motivated by a visit to a declining fishery in Zambia, Kezzy is driven to address challenges like overexploitation and the impact of climate change on fisheries. Through the AWARD Leadership Program for Emerging African Women in Science, she has gained leadership, public speaking, and scientific research skills, allowing her to help influence policy and research frameworks in Zambia.

"This program has empowered me to confidently pursue leadership roles," Kezzy says. To young women considering the program, she says, "Take every opportunity seriously and apply your training to advance in your career and make a difference."



Kezzy Besa 2023 Zambia

#### Position:

Master Student

### Organization:

Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malawi

#### Field of research:

**Aquatic Toxicology** 

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