

CELINE WANDIA KAROKI

Curriculum Vitae

A highly motivated graduate in Environmental Studies currently undertaking an MSc in Environmental Science, interested in environmental policies, wildlife conservation and research, education and outreach.

Personal Information

Full name: Celine W. Karoki

Nationality: Kenyan

Address: P.O Box 495-00511 Ongata Rongai, Kenya

Telephone: +254702789040

Email: wandia.karoki@gmail.com

Personal Profile:

I am an Environmental Scientist keen in wildlife ecology and research. Currently working in Laikipia, Kenya with great exposure to wildlife research in a landscape that falls majorly out of protected areas. The ecosystem showcases a unique experience in that there is coexistence of people and wildlife which is of keen interest for me with regard to human-wildlife interaction.

Recent position/work experience:

2022 to date: Outreach officer, Samburu-Laikipia Wild dog project, Mpala Research Center.

Roles involved in:

- Developing outreach materials working with technical advisors project partners and others to ensure that messages are based on the best available evidence and working with community officers to ensure they are locally appropriate.
- Managing relations with the community outreach arts theatre group contributing to the development and refinement of the participatory play and overseeing the production of video clips for local sharing.
- Liaising with project partners to ensure that key messages are being communicated accurately and effectively by everyone involved in the project.
- Liaising with the monitoring officer and all other team members to ensure that messaging draws on the latest evidence and experience from the project.
- Working with Mpala management and the Mpala Live! team to embed messages about the project into Mpala communications
- Liaising with journalists and film-makers locally, nationally and internationally to promote the project's messages.
- Developing and expanding the project's digital presence through local WhatsApp groups, social media, and other appropriate platforms.

2021: Administrator and Research Assistant at Elephant Neighbors Center (ENC).

Roles involved in:

- Monitoring and evaluation of elephant populations in ecosystems that are highly characterized by human-wildlife conflict in an attempt to reduce the levels of conflict by striking a balance between wildlife, humans and the environment.
- Planning and coordination of Elephant campaign walks aimed at educating and enhancing the capacity of communities living with wildlife.

- Community mobilization and education.
- Environmental sensitization.
- Carrying out administrative duties of the organization.
- Coordinating the diary and events of the Executive director.

2019-2020: Volunteer participant, Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign, project led by Mpala Research Centre aimed at eradicating Rabies virus in Laikipia County.

Roles undertaken:

- Data collection on the number of dogs vaccinated.
- Community mobilization.
- Issuing of vaccination cards to owners.
- Entry of vaccination points for dogs.
- Providing support for vaccination.

2019: Volunteer assistantship at Mpala Research Centre

- Helped with running animal transects for ungulates counts with the African wild dog project

2018: Industrial Attachment at Wildlife Clubs of Kenya, June 2019- August 2019

Duties and responsibilities;

- Lead in the initiation and management of new waste management project
- Engage in outreach programs and ecology courses.
- Take part in conservation education programs.
- Report writing and generation.
- Prepare and hold training workshops.
- Promoting the use of sustainable environmental projects.

Education background:

2022- To date: MSc in Environmental Science. Kenyatta University

2016-2020: BSc in Environmental Studies, Second class, Upper division, Karatina University.
Dissertation title '*Potential for Biogas as a green source of energy; Study site- Gitunduti, Karatina, Kenya*'

2012-2015: Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education/
Alliance Girls High School

Professional training

2022: University of Wyoming. Ecology Field course at Mpala Research Center, Nanyuki. Lead instructor, Dr Jacob Goheen (see <http://www.jakegoheen.com/index.php/courses.html>).

Leadership and community outreach:

Nov-Dec 2021: Organized and participated in the Great North Rift Elephant Walk Campaign where 18,000 seedlings were planted in 40 schools across 11 counties, 3 elephant populations were highlighted (Mau, Mara, Mt Elgon) and communities mobilized and educated on coexistence with wildlife.

August 2021: Participated in Elephant Walk Campaign that covered 320km from Nairobi-Amboseli whose impacts included reaching over 20 schools and engaging in conservation talks and tree planting activities, community meetings to understand

the impacts and scale of human-wildlife conflict in the area and ended with the celebration of World Elephant Day on August 12th at Amboseli National Park.

2019-2020: Participated in Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign where a total of more than 20,000 dogs were vaccinated within two months

2019-2020: Secretary, Nature Club Karatina University

2016-2020: Member, Nature Club of Karatina University

2016-2020: Organized various tree-planting sessions in different Schools in Nyeri County under Nature Club, Karatina University. Some of the sites included: Kagochi Primary, Kabare Girls High School, Gitunduti Secondary School etc.

2016-2020: Organized and participated in various clean-up activities in Karatina Town organized By Nature Club Karatina University

Conferences attended:

2019: Save The Elephants conference on ‘*Elephants protection and Ivory trade*’ based in Nairobi County in March 2019

2018: World Animal Protection Conference on ‘Animal welfare and animal rights’ based At Hilton Hotel, Nairobi County in July 2018

Skills:

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Good administration and report writing skills
- Team player and able to work effectively with a diverse group of individuals.
- Independent critical thinker.
- Ability to multitask and meet priorities.
- Well versed in computer literacy.

REFEREES

Dr. G. Gatere

HOD Environmental Sciences

P.O Box 1957-10101, Karatina University

KARATINA

Email: gatereg@gmail.com

Dr. George Njagi

Manager – AFEW/WCK Special Projects

P.O. Box 20184-00200

NAIROBI

Email: njagigeorge@yahoo.com