

SAMWEL PETER OMOLLO

Career Objectives and interesting research areas

To become a professional agricultural research scientist by maximizing my involvement in crop improvement to contribute to food security and poverty eradication in Sub Saharan Africa.

I am interested in climate change, soil and water conservation, agroforestry, socio-economic development, plant breeding

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

<i>Year</i>	<i>School / Institution</i>	<i>Examination / Qualifications</i>
2012- 2014	Kisii University	Certificate in Community Development
2009-2010	Perish Computer Systems	Certificate in Computer Applications
2006-2009	Ringa Boys High School	Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education
1997-2005	Kaloleni Primary School	Kenya Certificate of Primary Education

Competence and technical skills

- Fluent in English, Kiswahili and Luo languages
 - Quantitative and qualitative data collection for socio economic studies/surveys, and crop field experiments
 - Setting up experimental trials, collecting and recording data
 - Excellent communication, report writing skills
 - Excellent ability to work with teams including providing team leadership
 - Excellent in the use of Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint
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WORK AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1. Field Assistant, Smartcane Organization

Duration: November-December,2024

Project: Outgrower experiences from day 0 to harvesting of cane.

Responsibilities:

- Field GPS mapping of the sugarcane plantation in Transmara county.
- Baseline survey with sugar cane farmers in Kisumu,Kericho and Migori counties.
- Writing field technical reports
- Reviewed and submitted collected data.

2. Logistic Manager and Data collection team leader, Colgate University, College of the Holy Cross, Bates College, USA and Maseno University, Kenya.

Duration: June 1 to date

Project: Aspirations, Beliefs, and Behavior: Evidence from a Randomized Religious Intervention in Western (Kisumu)Kenya.

Responsibilities:

- Manage field team of fifteen enumerators.
- Ensure 1,400 individuals are surveyed in baseline survey and make a strong effort to ensure the same individuals are surveyed post-intervention.
- Make a strong effort to ensure high attendance at workshops by participants.
- Manage host sites (20 churches).
- Ensure all staff are present and ready for work each working day.
- Be a communication and financial intermediary between the partner institutions and both enumerators, and project participants, and host sites.
- Conduct survey training with enumerators from June 30-July 2 in Kisumu.
- Manage financial reporting and ensure all funds are properly accounted for and spent.
- Ensure quality of survey data and manage corrections of data as needed.
- After survey work is complete, if time allows, work on data entry

3. Research Assistant Under the Nature Positive solutions initiative, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Duration: September 2023 to February 2024

Project: Public-Private-Producers partnership building for an inclusive and pluralistic seed system development in which the challenges of the small-scale farmers to access quality seed of their preferred germplasm are addressed.

Responsibilities:

- Organizing inventory and prioritisation of the farmers preferred bean, corn, sorghum, finger millet and vegetable cultivars across the three CBOs and the Alliance research activities.
- Collecting straws, pods, spikes, and seed characteristics from the winter cropping season production of the priority list prepared through the above inventory and prioritisation process,
- Establishing and managing a preliminary cultivar characterisation and maintenance trial during the September 2023 to March 2024 secondary season to generate early generation seed stock and preliminary cultivar catalogue,

- Procuring of integrated seed threshers and cleaners, seed drying and moisture content measurement equipment, and airtight seed storage containers for the community seed banks in Vihiga, Kabudi, and Nyando.
- Capacity building in operationalisation of the above post-harvest equipment
- Organizing a field day and a traveling workshop on early generation seed production and cultivar characterisation at the physiological maturity of the crops around January/February 2024.

4. Research Assistant Volunteer-Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization

Duration: October 2022 to date

Responsibilities:

- Designing and setting up field trials for beans and sorghum
- Collecting and documenting phenotypic data
- Managing trials from planting to harvesting
- Arranging and supervising field related activities including all labor related work
- Organizing and supervising participatory varietal selection and evaluation activities
- Entering collected data in excel format

5. Data collection team leader, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (CIAT/ IITA), Colgate University, USA and Giselle Foundation

Duration: August 2020 to January 2023

Project: Alcohol, Agricultural Productivity and IPV Project in Western Kenya-Busia, Bungoma and Kakamega counties

Responsibilities:

- Mapping out project sites in Busia, Bungoma and Kakamega counties
- Recruitment and training of enumerators
- Supervising the enumerators to ensure effective delivery
- Writing field technical reports
- Organizing farmers learning events
- Leading visiting scientists to the project villages
- Supervising all the village guides to ensure smooth running of the project in various villages
- Availing all the materials needed by the enumerators for the project i.e. survey materials
- Transferring auction bided cash to the relevant farmers
- Training enumerators on how to use the GPS machine in taking measurements of the farming areas of the farms and the households.

6. Survey supervisor: International institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)/ Evansville University, Indiana USA

Duration: June- October 2019

Project: Plot size misperceptions and input optimization

Responsibilities:

- Supervised survey work in three counties in western Kenya-Busia, Bungoma and Kakamega
- Trained field enumerators on GPS mapping
- Supervised mapping of farm different farm enterprises
- Reviewed and submitted collected data.

7. Lead Enumerator, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)/World Agroforestry center (ICRAF) and Cornell University

Duration: July 2016-May 2017

Project: Peer Effects, Organic Fertilizer, and soil Health

Responsibilities:

- Collected soil sample from the various identified farm plots and provided feedback on the soil result after lab analysis.
- Provided advise to farmers on which input to apply on the farm based on the soil analysis results.
- Obtained information from the farmers on their agricultural inputs and the quantity being applied vis a vis the farm size and advising them based on healthy farming.
- Carried out field GPS mapping on all the farming areas for different households in project areas
- Ensured that all the required items within the project were in order including cash and inventory.

8. Field Assistant, Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project Phase-2 (LVEMP II) /Geo-APNet

Duration: July-August 2014

Responsibilities: Field GPS mapping of the project activities in different sub counties within Kisumu County, and other counties like Nandi, Nyamira and Homabay.

9. Field Assistant: World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF)/Cornell University

Duration: July 2011-June 2014

Project: Soil Fertility and Bioenergy Collaborative Project

Responsibilities:

- Samples collection: Assisted in the initiation and maintenance of agronomic and environmental research sites, collected and processed plant, soil, and water samples.
- GPS mapping of the fields: Assisted in the measurement of farm and plot areas under research.
- Survey work: Assisted in obtaining information from the farmers on the ratio of organic and inorganic input additions vis a vis the area, the quantity of fertilizer being added to the farms.
- Labeling and packaging of samples for further analysis: Assisted in ensuring that the samples were well labeled for easy identification and packed them in the quantity required and send them to the Cornell University Laboratories in America.