

MEET THE 2021 MAWAZO LEARNING EXCHANGE (MLEX) FELLOWS

We are excited to introduce our inaugural cohort of **Mawazo Learning Exchange (MLEx) Fellows**. The [MLEx Fellowship Programme](#) will provide bespoke professional development training to our MLEx Fellows via the [MLEx Platform](#), as well as tailored mentorship and networking with national, regional and international researchers and experts.

The cohort consists of **42 MLEx Fellows** who are current PhD candidates at universities across East Africa (Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda). Together, they represent eight African nationalities, and are pursuing innovative local research in a range of fields including Agriculture, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Climate Change, Engineering, Food Science, Health, Physics, and Women's Studies. By supporting the professional development of African women in the knowledge sector, we can amplify the voices and contributions of women to the continent's development.

All 42 MLEx Fellows are introduced below and you can find out more about them and their research by [clicking here](#).

The Mawazo Learning Exchange is an initiative of the [Mawazo Institute](#) that provides professional development through a range of online courses and free resources created and curated by the Mawazo Team, with early-career African researchers in mind.

CHEMISTRY



EMILY NGENO, Kenya
PhD in Chemistry
Masinde Muliro University of
Science and Technology



FLORA CHIRIKONA, Kenya
PhD in Chemistry
Masinde Muliro University of
Science and Technology



MARGARET MURAGE, Kenya
PhD in Biochemistry
University of Nairobi



RENEE MUNAYI, Kenya
PhD in Chemistry
University of Nairobi



RUTH KIIHIKA, Kenya
PhD in Chemistry
Kenyatta University

AGRICULTURE



EDNA MUTHAMIA, Kenya
PhD in Horticulture
(Floriculture)
Jomo Kenyatta University of
Agriculture and Technology



EVALINE SANG', Kenya
PhD in Agribusiness
Jomo Kenyatta University of
Agriculture and Technology



KAVENGI KITONGA, Kenya
PhD in Agriculture and Applied
Economics
University of Nairobi



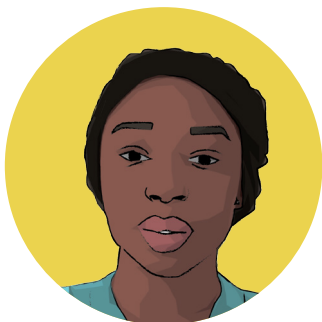
**MARGARET MWANGI,
Kenya**
PhD in Agricultural Economics
Egerton University



**MARIE CHANTAL
ZANINKA, Rwanda**
PhD in Agricultural and Rural
Innovation
Egerton University



NJERI NJAU, Kenya
PhD in Horticulture
Jomo Kenyatta University of
Agriculture and Technology



ROGIA GOMEZ, Benin
PhD in Animal Science
Sokoine University of
Agriculture

BIOTECHNOLOGY



DORCAS BENARD, Kenya
PhD in Environmental and
Biosystems Engineering
University of Nairobi



HELLEN GITONGA, Kenya
PhD in Plant Breeding and
Biotechnology
Makerere University



JOANNE ADERO, Uganda
PhD in Molecular Biology and
Biotechnology
Makerere University



PAULINE ORONDO, Kenya
PhD in Molecular Biology and
Bioinformatics
Jomo Kenyatta University of
Agriculture and Technology



RUTH MWANGI, Kenya
PhD in Plant Pathology
Egerton University



SYLVIA MUTINDA, Kenya
PhD in Biotechnology
Kenyatta University



VELMA OKARON, Kenya
PhD in Plant Breeding and
Biotechnology
Makerere University

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT



DESTA GEBEYEHU, Ethiopia
PhD in Climate Change and
Bioenergy Development
Kaimosi Friends University
College



FATUMAH NAKIGULI, Uganda
PhD in Life Sciences (Biodiversity and
Ecosystems Management)
Nelson Mandela African Institution of
Science and Technology



LILIAN KONG'ANI, Kenya
PhD in Environmental
Governance and Management
University of Nairobi



MARGARET MURIUKI, Kenya
PhD in Environmental
Governance and Management
University of Nairobi



MAYSOON OSMAN, Sudan
PhD in Climate Change and
Adaptation
University of Nairobi



MUTONO NYAMAI, Kenya
PhD Environmental
Governance and Management
University of Nairobi



SALLY MUSUNGU, Kenya
PhD in Environmental Research
Imperial College London/International
Institute of Tropical Agriculture



YVONNE GITHIORA, Kenya
PhD in Climate Change and
Adaptation
University of Nairobi

HEALTH AND MEDICINE



HELLEN KOKA, Kenya
PhD in Medical Parasitology
and Entomology
Jomo Kenyatta University of
Agriculture and Technology



JANET SURUM, Kenya
PhD in Educational Psychology
Moi University



LORINE NYONGESA, Kenya
PhD in Genetics
University of Nairobi



MARY MURITHI, Kenya
PhD in Molecular Medicine
Jomo Kenyatta University of
Agriculture and Technology



MERCY MWANJA, Uganda
PhD in Health Science
Makerere University



PEACE UWAMBAYE, Rwanda
PhD in Public Health
University of Rwanda



TERESA MILUGO, Kenya
PhD in Medical Entomology
Kilimanjaro Christian Medical
University College



THÉRÈSE UMUHOZA, Rwanda
PhD in Tropical and Infectious
Diseases
University of Nairobi

FOOD SCIENCE



ELIZABETH NAKHUNGU WAFULA, Kenya
PhD in Food Science and Nutrition
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology



LINNET MWANGI, Kenya
PhD in Food Science
Egerton University



MILCAH WAMBUA, Kenya
PhD in Food Science
Egerton University



REHEMA MATENDO ESTHER, DRC
PhD in Food Science and Nutrition
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

ENGINEERING



FRIDA ANDALU, Tanzania
PhD in Petroleum Engineering
University of Dar-es-Salaam

PHYSICS



CYNTHIA UMUHIRE, Rwanda
PhD in Space Physics
University of Rwanda

WOMEN'S STUDIES



JUDY NGINA, Kenya
PhD in African Women Studies
University of Nairobi