



2017 BHEARD Scholar
Olivier Ndayitegeye

Profile

Country of Study:	Kenya
University:	Egerton University
Department:	Water Resource & Environment Management
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant—Ph.D.
Home Country:	Kigali, Rwanda
Home Institution:	Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB)
Home Position:	Research Assistant Fellow, Banana Program
Mentored By:	Eng. Prof Japhet Onyando, University of Egerton, Kenya

Research Area: *Soil Moisture Retention*

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: August 2017

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in Biology, National University of Rwanda

GRADUATE EDUCATION: Master of Science in Water Resource and Environmental Management, University of Rwanda.

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Olivier’s area of study is Water Resources and Environmental Management. In Rwanda, water is the most valuable of the natural resources. It supports all sectors of the national economy including agriculture, yet it is a single substance with no known alternate. The appropriate management of water is a high priority for Rwanda. In Rwanda, water resources face growing challenges including pressures of rapidly increasing demography, the demands of intensified socio-economic development, degradation resulting from inadequate land use practices; and climate change, among others. At the same time, the water resources are relied upon to meet many conflicting demands in different sectors. Addressing the above challenges requires strong skills in the field of Water Resource and Environmental Management organized at Egerton University.

Many areas of the country, especially in the eastern agriculture zone, face severe drought and depend mostly on rain water. There is a need to improve food security and livelihoods of rural population by modern agriculture driven by efficient, effective and sustainable natural resource management technologies. Water resource management and irrigation technologies will significantly contribute to this issue.

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

- Bringing practical solutions to the agricultural sector challenges to improve livelihoods of rural population.
- Participate in policy and strategy formulation in agricultural production.
- Participate in monitoring and evaluation of disseminated technologies towards improved agricultural production.
- Translate research results into integrated packages to be applied by end users.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Olivier enjoys spending times with friends, swimming and aerobics. He also likes to travel and enjoys nature.