



1890 CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT (2021-22)

Building Capacity across 1890 Land-Grant Universities to Enhance Student Learning and Community Engagement in Global food security and Environmental Health

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Winnie Oliech¹, Fredrick Aila¹, Matthew Dida¹, Caleb Nindo²

Project Objectives

The objective is to enhance faculty and students' teaching, research, and extension capacity to address global food security challenges in Kenya and DRC; and train a globally competitive workforce at the 1890 institutions.

Project Goals

Develop and sustain strong partnerships among the consortium members, USDA agencies, and Kenyan and DRC's partners to enhance faculty and students' teaching and research in global food security [Education/Teaching]

Activities

- I. Designing Data collection tool
- II. Recruitment of students and data collection tool training
- III. Pilot study
- IV. Data collection

Designing a data collection tool

- I. Designing a Data collecting tool. The information that needed to be collected was on the financial implications of Striga and Fall Army Worm (FAW) on farmers in Kisumu and Vihiga County, Kenya
- II. The data collection tool used was a questionnaire available on google forms
- III. Aspects such as the effects of Striga and FAW on production and hence profits were considered
- IV. The extra cost incurred on treatment of Striga and FAW were also part of the questionnaire
- V. The target population was 400 farmers in Kisumu and Vihiga counties
- VI. The farmers will be from different villages in the target counties

Recruitment of students and data collection tool training

Six undergraduate students and two postgraduate students were selected to take part in the data collection. The following students were selected:

Table 1: List of Enumerators

Name	Level of Study	Admission number
Phelix Omondi	Masters	MSC/BE/00039/020
Winnie Oliech	Masters	MBA/BE/00021/20
Eric Onyango	Degree	BMM/00054/020
Cavin Odhiambo	Degree	BMM/00021/020
Margaret Ngao	Degree	BMM/00045/020
Joan Aluoch Omondi	Degree	BMM/00043/020
John Ndirangu	Degree	BMM/00006/020
Nancy Waithira	Degree	BMM/00101/020

On May 26th 2022, a training on the data collection tool was conducted at Maseno University, the main campus with the aid of Professor Mathew Dida and Dr. Fredrick Aila. The students went through the tool question by question and later role playing was done for the interviewers to familiarize themselves with the tool.



Figure 1: The team learning about the data collection instrument

Pilot study

A pilot study was conducted on the 26th of May 2022 to assess the feasibility of the instrument and necessary adjustments were made after the pilot study.

Table 2: Locations for Pilot Study

County	Village	Number of Respondents
Kisumu	Maseno	30
Vihiga	Mabungo	31
Total		70

Data Collection

Data collection commenced on the 27th of May and ended on 31st of May 2022. The students were split into groups of two for security reasons and they visited different villages on different days.

Table 3: Data Collection Regions

Date	Region	Respondents
27 th	Lela	120
	Depo	
	Chulaimbo	
28 th	Karateng	120
	Sinyolo	
	Daraja mbili	
31 st	Lwanda	191
	Maseno School Hostels	
	Tulumba Hostels	
Total		431

Challenges encountered

1. Some farmers were not willing to be interviewed
2. Hostility from some farmers
3. Rainfall made data collection a problem
4. Language barrier as some farmers only speak their local dialect
5. Some farmers wanted compensation for their response

Students Testimonials



ERIC ONYANGO BMM/00054/020

I would suggest that solutions be found as soon as possible, but firstly, the farmers should be trained on how to control FAW and Striga to reduce the effects they cost to ensure food security for an extended period. Some farmers have likewise begun using some control mechanisms like manure to do away with the Striga, which seems to be working well for them.



CAVIN ODHIAMBO BMM/00021/2

There is a need to offer solutions to fall armyworm because it makes maize production expensive to farmers and reduces the yield. There is also a need to come up with breeds that are resistant to Striga weed to help farmers



MARGARET NGAO BMM/00045/020

The experience gave me a chance to interact with different kinds of people thus building my confidence in conversing with the respondents by asking them questions and also responding to their views.



JOAN ALUOCH OMONDI BMM/00043/020

Being part of this great team has been one of the greatest experiences ever. This exercise has enabled me to discover my skills and also expanded knowledge. I experienced some challenges such as irresponsiveness and hostility, but all in all, the experience and the team was great. We thank God.



NANCY WAITHIRA BMM/00101/020

I learned that most farmers are ready to welcome any ideas about organic farming since that is what most of them are practicing.

Community involvement



FAW and Striga available in Farms

