

Mrs. Sakile Kudita (Nee Nsingo)

No. 3 Berkshire Avenue, Hillcrest, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Mobile: +263712622582 or +263779580775 E-mail: kuditasakile@gmail.com

Profile summary

Personal description: I'm a multi-skilled agricultural development practitioner with more than 20 years' experience managing projects whose scope includes seed systems development, farmer seed enterprise development, value chain development, technology transfer, and nutrition sensitive agriculture. I hold a BSc in Agriculture (Crops Science), an MBA, master's in applied microbiology and biotechnology and am currently studying for a multi-disciplinary PhD in Genetics, microbiology and food technology.

Skills summary

- Excellent team leadership, coaching and mentoring skills.
- Good networking and partnerships building, and negotiation skills
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Good interpersonal skills,
- Proactive, innovative, results oriented, and decisive

Employment History

Dec 2019 – Date Country Manager - HarvestPlus & Country Representative - Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT

Position summary: My role is to fundraise and provide strategic leadership and administrative oversight for country office's activities; as well as representing the Alliance and HarvestPlus to government, donors, and other partners. My specific responsibilities include:

- Project leadership, and project budget control
- Leading the scale-up of biofortified crops in Zimbabwe.
- Leading policy advocacy and related communication for the inclusion of biofortified crops in key government policies, strategies, and programs.
- Oversight over project monitoring, learning, and evaluation activities.
- Fundraising

Feb 2018 – Nov 2019: Demand Creation Specialist at The Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT - HarvestPlus

Position summary: My role was to develop and implement strategies aimed at promoting the uptake of biofortified varieties by actors along the maize, bean and sweet potato value chain including public breeding institutes, seed companies, agro-dealers, farmers, aggregators, processors, retailers and consumers.

Jul 2016 – Jan 2018: Seed expert & farmer seed enterprise manager and the Community Technology Development Organization (CTDO)

Position summary: My roles were to provide technical support on the development of sustainable community-based seed systems for neglected and underutilised crop species. During my time at CTDO, I managed to set-up and manage a commercially viable farmer seed enterprise now trading as Champion Seeds, which specialised in producing and marketing seed of OPV & hybrid maize, sorghum, pearl millet, cowpea and groundnuts.

April 1999 – April 2016: Senior Scientific Officer (Seed systems) and genebank manager at the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

Position Summary: My main responsibilities included:

- supporting the development of both community based and commercial seed systems for sorghum, millets, cowpeas, and groundnuts.
- Ensure availability of quality foundation seed to seed companies through managing a seed revolving fund for producing breeder's and foundation seed for sale to seed companies.
- Curatorship for the organization's regional gene bank for sorghum and millets
- Supporting crop breeding for sorghum, millets and groundnuts

Jan 1998 – March 1999: Research Technician (maize breeding) at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)

Position Summary: Breeding support, including experimental designs, data analysis and management of maize breeding trials and nurseries.

Education and Training

PhD Genetic (2020 – date). Wageningen University and Research, Wageningen, Netherlands

MSc Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology (2016). National University of Sciences and Technology, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Masters in Business Administration (2006). National University of Sciences and Technology, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

BSc Agriculture honours (1997). University of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe

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Other competences

- High level of computer literacy
- High level of financial literacy
- Fluency in English, and excellent communication, writing and analytical skills
- Experience and willingness to work in any part of the world, including remote areas.
- Clean class four driving licence

List of Publications

Jogo W., Kudita S., Munda E., Chiduwa M., Pinkson S., Gwaze T. (2021). *Agronomic performance and farmer preferences for biofortified orange-fleshed sweetpotato varieties in Zimbabwe*. International Potato Center: Lima, Peru.

Ngwenya N., Manenji B.T., Madanzi T., Kudita S., Mahohoma W. 2016. *Influence of Maternal Season on Field Establishment of Sorghum Varieties Grown in Zimbabwe*. **International Journal of Plant & Soil Science Volume 11, Issue 6, pp 1 - 9**

Moyo, R., Ndlovu E., Moyo, N., Kudita S., Maphosa M. 2015. *Physiological parameters of seed vigour in ex situ stored sorghum germplasm*. **Journal of Cereals and Oilseeds Volume 2, Issue 3, pp 8-13**

Mgonja, M.A., S. Chandra, A.B. Obilana, E.S. Monyo, S. Kudita, M. Chisi, H.M. Saadan, E. Chinhema. 2008. *Stratification of sorghum hybrid testing sites in southern Africa based on grain yield*. **Field Crops Research 108: 193–197**.

Mgonja, M.A., S. Chandra, E.S. Monyo, A.B. Obilana, M. Chisi, H.M. Saadan, S. Kudita, E. Chinhema, 2006. *Stratification of SADC regional sorghum testing sites based on grain yield of varieties*. **Field Crops Research 96: 25–30**.

Mgonja, M.A., S.Chandra, E. T. Gwata, A. B. Obilana, E. S. Monyo, D. D. Rohrbach, M. Chisi, S. Kudita and H.M. Saadan. 2005. *Improving the efficiencies of national crop breeding programs through region-based approaches: the case of sorghum and pearl millet in southern Africa*. **International Journal of Food, Agriculture & Environment (JFAE). Volume 3, Issue 3&4**.

Contactable Referees

Please feel free to contact any of the listed referees

<p>1. Donald Mavindidze Managing Director, Lachlan Warehouse No. 1, Sunflag Industrial Park, Mombasa Road, Nairobi P.O. Box 49470 – 00100 Nairobi Tel: +254 702462989 Email: donald.mavindidze@lachlanafrika.com</p>	<p>2. Dawn Ng, MA Director of Partnership Development, The Roux Institute at Northeastern University 72 Bowdoin St Portland, ME 04102 Tel: +1 2074236813. Email: danuling75@gmail.com</p>
<p>3. Isaac J. Minde, PhD Deputy Project Director, Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) Professor of International Development, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University Address: Currently based at Sokoine University of Agriculture, P. O. Box 3114, Morogoro, Tanzania Tel: Mobile +255 752 409256 Landline +255 232 60 600742 Email: minde@iagri.org or isaac_minde@yahoo.com</p>	<p>4. Sabine Homann-Kee Tui (PhD) Principal Scientist, ICRISAT Malawi Chitedze Agricultural Research Station, PO Box 1096, Lilongwe, Malawi. Tel: +265 1 707297/071/ 067/057 Zimbabwe Email: s.homann@cgiar.org or shomannkeetui@gmail.com</p>