



MURANG 'A UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



Prof. Dickson M. Nyariki, Ph.D.
VICE CHANCELLOR
Murang'a University of Technology



MURANG 'A UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

VISION

A leading university in technological innovation, training and research for socio-economic development

MISSION

To advance knowledge and learning in science and technology through teaching, learning, consultancy, research and innovation for socio-economic development

**CITATION ON PROFESSOR DICKSON MON'GARE NYARIKI ON HIS
INSTALLATION AS THE 1ST VICE CHANCELLOR OF MURANG'A
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY ON FRIDAY, 10TH AUGUST, 2018 AT
THE GRADUATION GROUND**

1. Family and Marriage

Professor Dickson Mong'are Nyariki was born on 4 December, 1959 in Mesaria Village, Nyakooru Sub-location, Nyakooru Location, Kegogi Division, Marani Sub-county, Kisii County. He is the 2nd born among six children of Mzee Sebastiano Nyariki and the late Omong'ina Lucia Kerebi Nyariki. Prof. Nyariki is married to Mrs Lydia Gichuku and together they have four grown-up children.

2. Education Background

Prof. Nyariki started his early education in 1966. He attended several primary schools before successfully attempting his Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) at Engoto Primary School in Kisii District in 1975. He was admitted to Kisii High School in Kisii District where he attempted his East African Certificate of Education in 1979 and attained Division I before proceeding to Kagumo High School in Nyeri District, from where he obtained three (3) principal passes in his Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education 1981.

Prof. Nyariki was admitted to the University of Nairobi in 1983 to study Bachelor of Science (Range Management). He completed the studies in 1986. He then proceeded to register for a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics at the same University in 1987, which he successfully completed in 1990. As a result of his thirst for further education, he proceeded to the University of Reading (UK) where he registered for his Doctor of Philosophy (Agricultural Economics) studies in 1994 under a World Bank Scholarship. He completed the course within a record time and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1997.

3. Career Development in the University Sector and Public Service

Prof. Nyariki has held numerous senior administrative positions in various universities in Kenya and in the Public Service. For instance, upon his graduation from the University of Nairobi in 1986, he served in the Public Service as a District Range Planning Officer in Isiolo District, from 1986 to 1987. In 1989, while pursuing his M.Sc. studies at the University of Nairobi, he was recruited as a Graduate Assistant, Department of Range Management, for a period of 2 years. Following his graduation with a Masters in Agricultural Economics in 1991, he was

appointed as a lecturer in the same department. In 1999, he was promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer, Department of Range Management, and appointed the Chairman of the department. As Chairman, he spearheaded the negotiation for and implementation of the following research projects: the Regional Climate Prediction and Application for the Greater Horn of Africa Project (USAID-funded); livestock production Systems in the Greater Kibwezi and tenure systems and food security in pastoral areas (Sida-funded); ROSELT - dealing with dryland development including water development in collaboration with the Ministry of Water Development (Germany (GTZ)-funded); POPS - dealing with many aspects of desert combat and poverty alleviation through livelihood improvement (EU-funded); execution of the Pastoral Information Network Programme (PINEP). PINEP was involved in training range management specialists for IGAD countries, that is Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, Eritrea and Djibouti, and Tanzania at both M.Sc. and Ph.D. levels. PINEP was also involved in disseminating pastoral information through publications of research outcomes (Sida-funded); coordination and execution at the national level of the Dryland Husbandry Project (DHP) which was regionally coordinated by the Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) whose headquarters was Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The project involved Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Sudan (Sida-funded). Because of Prof. Nyariki's exemplary performance, OSSREA bestowed on him a Distinguished Service Award.

Further, while working as Chairman of department, Prof. Nyariki was promoted in 2004 to the position of Associate Professor, Department of Land Resource Management and Agricultural Technology. In 2010, he was appointed by the South Eastern University College - SEUCO - (a Constituent College of the University of Nairobi) as Deputy Principal (Administration and Finance). During the time he was serving as Deputy Principal, he was competitively appointed to the position of full Professor of Agricultural Economics in 2013. SEUCO was soon after upgraded to South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU), and he was appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration and Human Resource Management). In March 2016, he moved from SEKU to Murang'a University College (Constituent College of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology) as a Principal. In October 2016, when Murang'a University College (MRUC) was upgraded to a University and re-named Murang'a University of Technology (MUT), he was appointed as the Ag. Vice Chancellor until February, 2018 when he was confirmed as the Vice Chancellor of Murang'a University of Technology.

Prof. Nyariki also served as Chairman of the Thematic Working Group (TWG) for food security of the Agricultural Sector Coordination Unit (ASCU), Government of Kenya.

4. Distinguished participation in Research Activities and Consultancy

Prof. Nyariki has engaged in numerous research and consultancy services both locally and internationally for more than twenty five years. Key among his research and consultancy services are as follows: consultancy to develop a training manual on how to use total economic valuation approach as an assessment and advocacy tool to put pastoralism at the centre of future policy debates (funded by the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), 2018); provision of support as an International Expert for preparing studies on the contribution of copyright and related rights-based industries to the national economies of the Republic of Ghana (funded by the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI), 2018); Botswana (funded by the government of Botswana, 2013), and Malawi (2010), Ethiopia and Tanzania (2011) (all the last three funded by World Intellectual Properties Organization (WIPO)); study on the contribution of copyright based industries to Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (funded by WIPO, 2008); youth empowerment and capacity strengthening for post-secondary training in agriculture, water and environment (funded by the National Research Fund (NRF), Government of Kenya, 2018); assessing the social and economic cost of cattle rustling in Kenya (funded by the IGAD, 2017); assessing the total economic value of pastoralism in Kenya (funded by IGAD, 2017); assessing the contribution of livestock to the GDP of IGAD countries (funded by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 2015); conducting an in-depth analysis of the sorghum value chain (funded by Africa Harvest Biotechnology Foundation International (AHBFI), 2014); preparation of Project Fische and Action Fische for Regional Ecosystems, Natural Resources and Renewable Energy Support Programme in preparation for the 2015 Annual Action Plan under the 11th EDF (sponsored by IGAD and financed under the 10th European Development Fund, 2014); impact evaluation of the food security and ecosystems management for sustainable livelihoods in arid and semi-arid lands of Kenya (FOSEMS) Project (funded by AHBFI, 2012); development of a study on the integration of the National Monitoring Devise (DNSE) results in the implementation of Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in Kenya (funded by

the Sahel-Sahara Observatory (OSS), 2012); study on dryland research and training networking in the IGAD countries (sponsored by IGAD and funded by the European Union, 2011); coordination and participation in a study on climate change monitoring of the Kiboko-Kibwezi (funded by OSS, 2010); a study of Kenya's local food markets with respect to rising prices and preparation of an implementation plan for the Purchase for Progress (P4P) Program (funded by World Food Programme (WFP), 2008); agriculture stock-taking of Kenya's initiatives to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (funded by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) through CAADP, 2008); drafting Kenya's National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (NFSNS) (funded by FAO 2008); drafting an Implementation Plan for the African Union Commission (AUC) on the Sahel-Sahara Green Wall Initiative (facilitated by AUC in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2007); drafting a Position Paper for the Government of Kenya on the Horn of Africa Initiative (HOAI) on tackling food insecurity, and facilitating the Government during a UN Meeting at Gigiri, Nairobi to discuss the initiative (funded by FAO, 2007); facilitating the writing of Kenya's new National Food and Nutrition Policy (NFNP) (funded by FAO, 2007); socio-economic study and investigation of indigenous knowledge for the Lembus Forests Integrated Conservation and Development Project (funded by European Union through the World Conservation Union (IUCN), 2006); a comparative study of commercial consumptive and non-consumptive utilization options for wildlife conservation strategies in Kenya (funded by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), 2006); study on preparation of emergency livestock off-take handbook for ASALs in Kenya (funded by the World Bank through the Arid Lands Resource Management (ALRMP), Office of the President, 2004-2005); study on the analysis of the economics of pastoralism in East Africa (funded by the Resource Conflict Institute and International Institute for Environment and Development (RECONCILE/IIED), (2004-2005); study on indigenous range resource assessment and monitoring techniques in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda (funded by RELMA/Sida, 2002-2003); management study and proposal for the former Eastern Statelands of Mwingi and Kitui (funded by the Belgian Technical Co-operation (BTC), 2001); analysis of the dairy sector liberalisation in Kenya (funded by USAID through Techno Serve (TNS), 2001); and evaluation of the Wildlife Cropping Project in Kenya (funded by USAID, 2001).

5. Publications, Supervision of Postgraduate Students and Journal Refereeing

Prof. Nyariki is an accomplished scholar. In addition to teaching at B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. levels for many years, he has supervised close to 40 M.Sc. and Ph.D. students, and published more than 100 journal articles, books, book chapters, and peer reviewed proceedings and reports. He has also refereed for several journals including the *East African Agricultural and Forestry Journal*, *Discovery and Innovation*, and *Journal of Developing Areas*.

6. International Engagements

Prof. Nyariki has served in various capacities internationally. For example, he served as the Sub-Regional Coordinator for the FAO Initiative on Soaring Food Prices (ISFP) based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia between 2009 and 2010. The aim of the initiative was to address the problem of soaring food prices by improving the availability of farm inputs to enhance food security through increased grain production, involving six countries - Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, Djibouti, Burundi, and Rwanda. He also served as a Regional Coordinator for Water Harvesting Pilot Project in the IGAD Region between 2005 and 2008. The project's main objective was to improve water availability for enhancing food security through increased livestock and crop production, involving four countries - Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Sudan.

7. Professional Associations

Prof. Nyariki is a member of various professional organisations in Kenya, Africa and the UK. Some of these organisations are the African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE), Kenya Institute of Management (KIM), and British Agricultural Economics Society (AES).

Ladies and gentlemen, it is in recognition of his scholarship, contribution to the development of the education sector, and valuable University administrative experience, that the Council of Murang'a University of Technology and the Government of Kenya appointed Professor Dickson Mong'are Nyariki the pioneer Vice Chancellor of Murang'a University of Technology.