



Meet TL II Students



Capacity building both in terms of infrastructure and human resources development, is an important component of TL II. Progress in infrastructure improvement and short-term has been reported earlier. Here, we provide profiles of students from our partner NARS institutions enrolled for their degree programs at various universities.

A total of 25 students are currently pursuing their studies towards their MSc and PhD degrees. Nineteen of these are MSc and

six are PhD students. Among those, four each are from Ethiopia, Mozambique, and Tanzania; three from Kenya; two each from Niger, Nigeria, Malawi and India; and one each from Mali and Zimbabwe (through TL I collaboration). Discipline wise, 16 are in plant breeding; three each in agricultural economics and seed systems; two in agronomy; and one in agricultural engineering. It is expected that two of the students would complete their studies and obtain their degrees in 2009, 17 in 2010, five in 2011, and one in 2012.

TL II STUDENTS



Mr. Auwalu Umar Adamu

Nationality:	Nigerian
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	Ahmadu Bello University
Thesis title:	<i>Inheritance of time to cook in cowpea [Vigna unguiculata (L.)Walp]</i>
Starting date:	February 2008
Completion date:	January 2010

Auwalu holds a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria (1989) and NYSC certificate (1990). He has also obtained IJMB from School from Preliminary Studies, Kano, Nigeria (1985). His work

experience includes a one-year national youth service (1989-90), classroom teacher at the Ministry of Education, Kano State (1991-2003) and lecturer at Audu Bako College of Agriculture at Danbatta, Kano State (2003-2008).

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Mr. Berhanu Amsalu



Nationality:	Ethiopian
Degree sought:	PhD in plant breeding
University:	University of Pretoria, South Africa
Thesis title:	<i>The role of protease inhibitors system in nodule senescence under water deficit conditions in legumes</i>
Starting date:	August 2008
Completion date:	July 2011

Berhanu obtained his Master of Science degree in crop production from Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel (2004), Bachelor of Science degree in dry land crop production from Mekelle University, Ethiopia (2000) and an advanced diploma in plant sciences from Jimma College of Agriculture, Ethiopia (1991). He has wide range of experience in research and development and leadership; he served at the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, based at Melkassa Research Centre as Assistant Researcher in the field of breeding and genetics in the Lowland Pulses Project (2003-2006) and Junior Researcher (2001-2003). Berhanu has also worked as development/extension agent (1995-1998)

and Junior Expert (1991-1995) with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Ethiopia. He served as team leader for collaboration work of ILRI and Amhara National Regional State Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development in “Sustainable Land Management Policy Project in the High Land of Amhara,” Ethiopia (2000-2001). Some of the other leadership positions he held include team leader for the project “The Effect of Long-Term Seed Aid in Ethiopia” (2005-2007), coordinator for dry land crops research project (2005-2006), and coordinator for dry land pulses research (2001-2002).

During his tenure with EIAR, Berhanu has authored/

co-authored more than 10 publications and is credited for co-developing and releasing a similar number of improved varieties of bean in Ethiopia. Berhanu is member of several professional societies and technical committees.

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Mr. Guilherme Boina

Nationality:	Mozambican
Degree sought:	MSc in seed systems
University:	University of Malawi, Bunda College of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>The effect of traditional methods of cowpea seed storage on seed quality in Malema District, Nampula Province, Mozambique</i>
Starting date:	August 2008
Completion date:	September 2010

Guilhermino obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture (with honors) from the Faculty of Agriculture of Catholic University of Mozambique (2004). He also holds a diploma in general agronomy from Agronomy Politecnic Institute # 32 – Angel Alberto Galañena_ Ilha da Juventude – Cuba (1989). Guilhermino has participated in many short-term training courses (1992-2007). He has worked as medium technician at soil fertility

sector (residual effect of NPK), in maize culture in Lichinga Research Station (1990) and as technician at the National Grain Legumes Research Programmed at IIAM and as field manager at Lichinga Research Station (1990-1998). He is currently affiliated with IIAM, based at Lichinga Research Station. Guilhermino is multilingual with Macua (mother tongue), Portuguese, Spanish and English.

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Mr. Wilson Chafutsa

Nationality:	Malawian
Degree sought:	MSc in agriculture
University:	University of Malawi, Bunda College of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>Evaluation of seed multiplication and farmers' field schools for effectiveness and seed quality</i>
Starting date:	August 2008
Completion date:	July 2010

Wilson obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in crop science (with credit) from Bunda College of Agriculture, University of Malawi (2005). He has worked as agricultural research scientist at the Department of Agricultural Research Services, Ministry of

Agriculture and Food Security, based at Kasinthula Research Station. He taught agriculture and mathematics at Likuni girls Secondary School in Lilongwe (2005-2007) and science and mathematics at Ulemu Kwa Aate Private Secondary School in Lilongwe (1998-2001).

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Mr. Henriques Victor Colial

Nationality:	Mozambican
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	University of Malawi, Bunda College of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>Generating populations that combine drought tolerance with pest and disease resistance using elite cowpea lines</i>
Starting date:	August 2008
Completion date:	September 2010

Henriques has a Bachelor of Science degree in plant sciences from Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique (2003). He has worked at IIAM as grain legumes agronomist and manager of Mapupulo Research Station (2004-2008).

Contacts

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Mr. Mitiku Demissie

Nationality:	Ethiopian
Degree sought:	MSc in agricultural economics
University:	Haramaya University, Haramaya, Ethiopia
Thesis title:	<i>Marketing of kabuli and desi chickpea by smallholder farmers in Eastern Shewa, Ethiopia</i>
Starting date:	October 2007
Expected date of completion:	December 2009

Mitiku obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural economics (1995) from Haramaya University, Ethiopia. He has been instructor at

Alagae Agricultural Training and Vocation College, Ethiopia. His experience includes lecturing and evaluation of apprenticeship programmed.

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Mr. Abdoulaye Amadou Diarra

Nationality:	Malian
Degree sought:	MSc in agricultural economics
University:	University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Thesis title:	<i>Analysis of determinants of adoption of improved varieties of groundnut in Kayes and Koulikoro regions of Mali</i>
Starting date:	January 2009
Completion date:	July 2010

Abdoulaye obtained his Ingénieur d'Etat en Agronomie diploma from the Université Abdelhamid Ibn Badis de Mostaganem, Algeria (2006). He has also studied for a diploma at the same university from 2001 to 2004. Abdoulaye

worked as a researcher in Tropical Legumes II in the Kayes and Koulikoro regions in 2008. He has been involved in agricultural research and development work (including soil fertility) since 2002.

Contacts

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Mr. Mekbib Gebretsadik

Nationality:	Ethiopian
Degree sought:	MSc in development and resource economics
University:	Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway
Thesis title:	<i>Technology adoption and commercialization of chickpea in Ethiopia</i>
Starting date:	October 2007
Completion date:	August 2009

Mekbib has a Bachelor of Science degree in economics (2006) from Hawassa University, Ethiopia. He has worked as graduate assistant at the same university (2006-2007).

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Mr. Aliyu Habibu

Nationality:	Nigerian
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	Ahmadu Bello University
Thesis title:	<i>Molecular genetics of aphid resistance in cowpea</i>
Starting date:	July 2008
Completion date:	June 2010

Aliyu has obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in biology (First Class) from Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria (2005) and holds a certificate in computer from NIIT in Kaduna, Nigeria (2003). He has worked as a researcher with the Department of Biological Sciences at Ahmadu Bello University (September 2007

to present) and at the National Youth Service Corps at the University of Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria (September 2006 - August 2007).

Aliyu has authored/co-authored three publications on tomato and maize physiology. His hobbies include reading writing, soccer and swimming.

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Mr. Mohamed Bouzou Ismaghila

Nationality:	Niger Republic
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	University of Niamey
Thesis title:	To be identified
Starting date:	October 2009
Completion date:	November 2011

Mohamed has his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from the University of Niamey, Niger Republic (2007). He also has advanced diploma, DUES (diplôme universitaire d'étude scientifique). He has worked as research assistant in plant breeding at INRAN (Institut national de la recherche

agronomique) since February 2008. He participated in a 2 months training course at the Service d'Intervention Phytosanitaire et Encadrement de la Direction de la Protection de Végétaux, and in four studies evaluating CRS projects in Tillabéri, Republic of Niger.

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Mr. Mfaume Juma

Nationality:	Tanzanian
Degree sought:	MSc in agronomy
University:	University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya
Thesis title:	<i>Effects of genotype x environment interactions on grain yield of groundnuts (Arachis hypogaea, L) in Tanzania</i>
Starting date:	September 2008
Completion date:	November 2010

Mfaume holds a Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy from Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania (2007). He also has certificate in horticulture from Horticultural Training Institute of Arusha, Tanzania (1995), and certificate in general agriculture from Mtwara Training Institute,

Tanzania ((1991). He has served as Research Officer at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives in Dar es Salaam (November 2007 – October 2008); Senior Agricultural Field Officer (July 1995 – October 2004) and Village Extension Officer (July 1991 – August 1993).

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Mr. Peter Kaloki

Nationality:	Kenyan
Degree sought:	MSc in genetics and plant breeding
University:	University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya
Thesis title:	<i>Identification of sources of heat tolerance in chickpea</i>
Starting date:	September 2008
Completion date:	September 2010

Peter holds a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Egerton University, Njoro, Kenya (2000). He has worked

as Research Assistant in agronomy and plant breeding at the ICRISAT-Nairobi Center (December 2002 – June 2009) where he has been involved in technology development, seed systems, and training of farmers. He was also supervisor of field research trials on

integrated pest management for a private company, Dudutech (K) Ltd (November 2001 -November 2002). Nairobi, Kenya

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Ms. Lizzie Kalolokesya

Nationality:	Malawian
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	University of Zambia/University of Malawi (Bunda College of Agriculture)
Thesis title:	<i>Use of SCAR marker SU91 in marker assisted selection for CBB resistance in common bean (Andean beans)</i>
Starting date:	April 2008
Completion date:	June 2010

Lizzie holds her Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture (crop science) from Bunda College of Agriculture, University of Malawi (2006). Lizzie has received several awards, including Dean's Honors List and Scholastic Achievements at Bunda College during academic years 2004/05 and 2005/06. She wrote and presented three articles - yield and yield components of common bean, why farmers plant late in Malawi and poverty reduction strategies

at Kamowa village – during her undergraduate studies at Bunda College.

Lizzie's work experience includes research assistantship in bean breeding at CIAT Malawi (June-August 2005, December 2006 – March 2008) and Enumerator with Total Land Care and Land Resources Centre in 2004.

She served as chairperson of Bunda Catholic Students'

Organization (2005/06) and secretary of Bunda Agronomy Club (2004/05). Her academic interests include molecular and conventional plant breeding, seed systems and technology dissemination.

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Mr. John Bulassi Kaunda

Nationality:	Mozambican
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	University of Malawi, Bunda College of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>Evaluation of cowpea breeding lines for resistance to drought</i>
Starting date:	August 2008
Completion date:	September 2010

John obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy from the Higher Institute of Agriculture and Animal Sciences in Havana, Cuba (1994). He also holds a Specialized Postgraduate Diploma from the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies – Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza, Spain (2001). John has participated in many

training sessions on sorghum, maize, and bean breeding in Angola and in participatory plant breeding in Kenya. He has worked in the Grain Legumes Programme of IIAM as breeder/agronomist (2001-2008), as public worker at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (1998-2000), and as research technician at the National Institute of Agricultural Sciences of Cuba (1991-1994)

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Mr. Didas Rogasian Kimaro

Nationality:	Tanzanian
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	Sokoine University of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>Evaluation of cowpea varieties for drought tolerance under controlled conditions</i>
Starting date:	September 2008
Completion date:	September 2010

Didas holds a Bachelor of Science degree in horticulture from Sokoine University of Agriculture (2004). He is currently employed as agricultural research officer by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Cooperatives. His

work experience also includes Alpha Seed Company Ltd (2004-2005) and Ministry of Cultural Affairs (2005-2007). Didas has skills in horticulture, business, agriculture, and communication and information technologies.

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Mr. Godwill Makunde

Nationality:	Zimbabwean
Degree sought:	PhD in plant breeding
University:	University of Free State, South Africa
Thesis title:	<i>Association mapping to quantify genetic diversity in drought adaptation of common bean</i>
Starting date:	October 2008
Completion date:	September 2012

Godwill holds a Master of Science degree in agronomy/plant breeding from University of Zambia (2007) and his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture (honors) from University of Zimbabwe (2001). Godwill is an accomplished crop research professional with over seven years of experience, specializing in the co-ordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects on the development, testing, and seed multiplication of common bean, Bambara nut and cowpea varieties, and the training of communal farmers on community-based seed production of self-pollinated

crops. His experience also includes good capability for the co-ordination, management and monitoring of the use of human and material resources for effective and efficient execution of on-station and on-farm research projects.

Godwill has been working as research officer in common bean breeding for the Crop Breeding Institute of Zimbabwe since 2002. He is currently common bean breeder and research team leader for pulses (common bean, Bambara nut, and cowpea). Godwill has been instrumental in the development and release of

two varieties each of common bean, Bambara nut, and cowpea in Zimbabwe. He has also written an article titled *Combining Ability of Drought Tolerance in Common Bean Lines* in 2007. Life-long learning is one of his core personal goals. Godwill is married with two children.

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Mr. Maman Badamassi Maman

Nationality:	Niger Republic
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	University of Niamey
Thesis title:	To be identified
Starting date:	September 2008
Completion date:	November 2010

Maman is a graduate of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria with a Bachelor of Science in agriculture (2008). He also holds a Proficiency Certificate in English for Foreigners from the same university (2002). Maman was given training in skill acquisition across

various departments, programs and units at the Institute of Agricultural Research, Zaria, Nigeria (2006-2007). He is currently working as a research assistant in plant breeding for the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique du Niger (INRAN).

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Ms. Anica Sandra Francisco Massas

Nationality:	Mozambican
Degree sought:	MSc in agronomy
University:	University of Malawi, Bunda College of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>Evaluation of promiscuous soybean lines for biological nitrogen fixation potential in Malawi</i>
Starting date:	August 2008
Completion date:	September 2010

Anica holds a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Catholic University of Mozambique (2005). She has worked IIAM as agronomist for Grain Legumes Programme and in charge of small-scale irrigation in Gurue. Her responsibilities included, among others, on-farm evaluation of bean

and soybean, on-farm seed multiplication, and assisting farmers in irrigation water usage, developing agricultural intensification programmes and implementation of IPM.

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Ms. Maryanna Maryange Mayomba

Nationality:	Tanzanian
Degree sought:	PhD in plant breeding/plant pathology
University:	Sokoine University of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>Genetic analysis of Fusarium wilt resistance in African and Asian pigeonpea [(Cajanus cajan (L) Millsp]</i>
Starting date:	February 2009
Completion date:	November 2011

Maryanna has a Master of Science degree in crop science and production from Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania (2006) and a Bachelor of Science degree in general agriculture from the

same university (2006). She has worked as agricultural research officer at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Cooperatives, based at Ilonga Kilosa, Tanzania.

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Mr. Justine Alfred Mushi

Nationality:	Tanzanian
Degree sought:	MSc in agricultural engineering
University:	Sokoine University of Agriculture
Thesis title:	<i>Assessment of mechanical dehulling effectiveness for different locally grown soybean</i>
Starting date:	September 2008
Completion date:	September 2010

Justine obtained Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural

engineering and land planning from Sokoine University of Agriculture (2006) and a diploma in agro-mechanization from Matimlingano, Tanga, Tanzania (1990). His work experience includes agricultural engineer officer at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and

Cooperatives (MAFC), based at ARI-Ilonga (July 2006 – September 2008), agricultural field officer at ARI-Ilonga Kilosa (July 2005) and agricultural field officer workshop manager at ARI-Ilonga (July 2001).

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Mr. Dave J.W. Nyongesa

Nationality:	Kenyan
Degree sought:	PhD in agricultural economics
University:	University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Thesis title:	<i>Economic analysis of the soybean commodity value chain: The case of smallholder enterprises in western Kenya.</i>
Starting date:	September 2008
Completion date:	September 2011

Dave has a master's degree in economics from University of Nairobi (1999), M. Phil in environmental resource planning and management from Moi University (1993), and BA (honors) in economics from Moi University (1991). Dave has accumulated extensive knowledge and experience working at KARI (Kenya Agricultural Research Institute) as research scientist (2002 – 2008),

as a lecturer at Co-operative College of Kenya (1995-2001), and as a lecturer at Kenya Polytechnic (1994-1995). He has close to 30 publications dealing with a variety of subjects, ranging from participatory research to value chain, during the period from 1994 to 2005. Dave has participated in more than 30 conferences, workshops, seminars and training programs where has presented several

papers and posters both within and outside Kenya between 1992 and 2006.

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Mr. Shrikant Laxmikant Sawargaonkar

Nationality:	Indian
Degree sought:	PhD in genetics and plant breeding
University:	Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani, India
Thesis title:	<i>Study of heterosis, combining ability and stability of yield and quality parameters in CMS-based pigeonpea hybrids</i>
Starting date:	August 2008
Completion date:	December 2011

Shrikant obtained his Master of Science degree in agriculture (First Class) from Marathwada Agricultural University in Parbhani, India (2007) and his Bachelor of Science degree (First Class) in agriculture from the same university (2005).

He has so far published 10 research articles and 11 research abstracts/technical papers, and is preparing many more. Shrikant has passed his DOEACC examination for computer literacy in 2005.

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Mr. Rachit Kumar Saxena

Nationality:	Indian
Degree sought:	PhD in plant breeding
University:	Osmania University, Hyderabad, India
Thesis title:	<i>Study of inheritance and identification of molecular markers for fertility restorers in pigeonpea [Cajanus cajan (L.) Millspaugh]</i>
Starting date:	March 2008
Completion date:	December 2011

Rachit obtained his Master of Science degree in biotechnology from Jiwaji University, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, India (2003) and Bachelor of Science degree from MJPR University, Bareilly,

Uttar Pradesh, India (2001). He is currently working at ICRISAT-Patancheru on the identification of molecular markers linked with Rf gene, key information useful for the pigeonpea hybrid technology.

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Mr. Tadesse Sefera

Nationality:	Ethiopian
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	Haramaya University, Haramaya, Ethiopia
Thesis title:	<i>Genetic diversity analysis and DNA fingerprinting of chickpea cultivars using simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers</i>
Starting date:	October 2007
Completion date:	January 2010

Tadesse obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in dry land agriculture (crop science) from Mekelle University, Ethiopia (2003). He has worked at the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR) as Assistant Researcher 1 (January 2006 - October 2007) and Junior Researcher (January

2004-January 2006). He is a founding member of the Forum for Environment at Asella, Ethiopia, a non-profit NGO working on environmental issues. He is also a member of Crop Science of Ethiopia and Plant Protection Society of Ethiopia.

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Mr. Felix Muchiru Waweru

Nationality:	Kenyan
Degree sought:	MSc in plant breeding
University:	University of Nairobi
Thesis title:	<i>Field evaluation of beans under drought stress in Kenya</i>
Starting date:	September 2007
Completion date:	January 2010

Felix has obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from University of Nairobi (2005) and an international diploma in computer engineering from New Horizon College in Kenya (2006). During his undergraduate studies Felix served in the Kabete Campus Union of Students Organization and Nairobi University Agricultural Students association where he was instrumental in arranging seminars to showcase and share the relevant farming

techniques and research, locally and internationally, through such venues as Agricultural Society of Kenya. He has also been awarded certificates in phenotyping of drought-related traits across tropical legumes (ICRISAT-India), SSR marker genotyping in sorghum (ICRISAT-India), new technologies of tropical agriculture for developing countries (Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences, Hainan, China).

Felix's work experience includes research assistantship at the University of Nairobi, research fellowship at the Applied Genomics Laboratory at ICRISAT-India, and IT support at Cornerstone Institute, Kenya.

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