

# Yamikani Ng'ona

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## **EDUCATION**

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Ohio State University – Wooster, Ohio, USA <i>Masters in Entomology</i>	Aug 2022 – Present
EARTH University – Guácimo, Limon, Costa Rica <i>Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Sciences GPA: 8.8/10</i>	Jan 2016 – Dec 2019
Ekwendeni Girls Secondary School – Ekwendeni, Malawi <i>Malawi School Certificate of Examination, MSCE Certificate</i>	2010-2014

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCES**

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<b>EARTH University</b> – Limon, Costa Rica <i>Graduation project</i>	Jan – Dec 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developed and presented a proposal for the graduation project</li><li>• Investigated the effect of the push and pull methods in control of fall armyworm (FAW) in maize</li><li>• Wrote and presented graduation thesis findings in seminar</li></ul>	
<b>EARTH University</b> – Limon, Costa Rica <i>Soil and water Sciences Lab assistant</i>	Jan– Dec 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water and soil sample collection and preparation</li><li>• Analysis of soil bio-physicochemical analyses</li><li>• Water analysis such as Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC), Acidity and pH</li></ul>	
<b>Project Concern International</b> – Zomba, Malawi <i>Agriculture and food security intern</i>	Sept- Nov 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepared demo plot, data collection tools and a master data capture matrix, especially for the push and pull method of FAW control</li><li>• Compiled monthly data for the FAW trial and analyzing impact of "push and pull" methods</li><li>• Developed research concept and examined the factors essential for success of livestock "pass-on" within Njira Project</li><li>• Helped report the monthly district level of livestock by following up with Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs)</li><li>• Compiled a case study highlighting accelerators and barriers to “pass-on” analysis in Balaka and Machinga district</li></ul>	

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND LEADERSHIP**

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• MasterCard Foundation (MCF) alumni scholarship	Jan. – Dec. 2021
• MasterCard Foundation Scholar	2016 – 2019
• Co-founder of “Together We Can initiative” social venture	2018 – present
• Winner of MCF Social ventures business competition	2018
• Winner of the Resolution Project Funding and fellowship	2019 – Present
• MCF Scholars representative and president, EARTH University	2017 – 2018
• MCF scholars conference: Ghana, South Africa, and Rwanda	2017, 2018, 2019
• Delegate to business today conference: New York	Nov. 2016

## **WORK EXPERIENCES**

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**LEIGH DAY** – Mzimba Rumphu and Nkhatabay, Malawi Dec 2020- present  
*Paralegal for Youth Watch*

- Paralegal for Youth Watch representing tobacco and tea farmers in Malawi
- Demographic and production data collection
- Translation of client data from Chichewa to English and vice versa
- Leader for data verification and presentation of summaries

**MEADOW CREEK DAIRY**- Virginia, USA Feb – Nov 2020  
*Intern, The Ohio Program, Ohio State University - Cheese production and cellar assistant*

- Cheese making and aging
- Sample collection for test that is fundamental for cheesemaking skills including monitoring pH, curd moisture content, and operation of the cheese vat and press
- Basic sensory evaluation of farmstead cheeses
- Learned the procedures required and chemistry involved in farmstead cheese making. Basic food safety and sanitation

**CAMUDA Chips** – Guácimo, Costa Rica 2016 - 2018  
*Production manager and Environmental manager*

- Worked together with a team of five on pitch preparation and business plan
- Managed strategic planning and stakeholder relationships
- Oversaw the environmental analysis by calculating the carbon footprint of the business project
- Together with the team we worked on the closure of the project

**Together We Can Initiative** – Mzuzu, Malawi 2016-present  
*Co-founder*

- Co- founded Together We Can Initiative that focuses on youth and women empowerment through group businesses
- Developed a syllabus for teaching youth and women about mushroom production
- Worked together with a colleague on pitch preparation and business plan
- Winner of the Resolution Project and received funding from the Mastercard Foundation Social Entrepreneurship Fund

**Other Experience** May-July 2015  
*Volunteer - International Citizen Services*

- Holding gender-based violence and women empowerment talks
- Trainings on basic teaching skills for kindergarten education
- Construction of classroom blocks for basic education

## **SKILLS AND INTERESTS**

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- Fluent in English, Spanish, Chichewa, Chitumbuka and Tonga
- Computer Skills: Microsoft Office, Adobe Illustrator and Google Apps