

CURRICULUM VITAE

OCHIENG' OGODO

PERSONAL DETAILS

Nationality: Kenyan
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PROFESSION: JOURNALISM

He ventured into journalism in 1996 at *The East African Standard*, one of the two leading media houses in Kenya and with good following in East Africa as well. At *The Standard*, he worked at the News Desk which entailed rigorous reporting including news breaking based on assignments and personal initiatives.

From September 1999 to October 2003 he moved to the Investigative Desk as one of the few writers for the then widely read investigative pullout, *The Big Issue*. He comprehensively and expansively covered politics, extensively wrote on human interest issues, personality profiles, entertainment, transport and maritime. Ogodo did commentaries and analysis on major topical issues as well as undertaking Special Projects. He has since then remained in the profession.

MILESTONES

October 7, 2008

Winner of the English-Speaking Africa and the Middle East region for the 2008 Reuters/IUCN Media Awards in Excellence in Environmental Reporting awarded in Barcelona, Spain.

2007:

Founding chairperson of the Kenya Environment and science Journalists Association (KENSJA)

CURRENT MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS:

Sub-Saharan Africa Regional Coordinator and Editor for the UK based *Science and Development Network* [www.scidev.net] since 2010. This is an online media house with strong focus on news, views and information about science, technology and development on the developing world.

Ochieng Ogodo is solely responsible for providing editorial services to ensure the delivery of news items relevant to Sub-Saharan Africa on the SciDev.Net website, and that this coverage is timely, factual, authoritative, provocative and relevant to the website's audience.

Productions include:

- ▶ Multimedia pieces
- ▶ News stories,

- ▶ Feature articles
- ▶ Opinion articles
- ▶ Analysis blogs
- ▶ Blogs

All on topics relevant to the SSA region.

Ochieng' Ogodo works with several journalists across the Sub-Saharan Africa region who author for the SSAE regional Edition.

He works with the user engagement coordinator to promote *SciDev.Net* in the Sub-Saharan Africa region and beyond, and to measure the impact.

Provides editorial support to the Global Edition often

Provides general support as requested by the Director for the development of *SciDev.Net*.

Has corresponded for:

-The *New Agriculturalist* (UK)

-*National Geographic*

- *Onislam.net*.

-Women's eNews (US)

He has been/is:

-National Activator in Kenya for the International Union for Conservation of Nature's [IUCN] Commission on Education and Communication

-Currently the Patron of the Kenya Environment and Science Journalists Association (KENSJA)

-Chairperson of the East Network of Science Journalist

Involved in research, training and mentoring of science journalists

Contributions: Has contributed to *Our Genes* magazine of South Africa, *Transport International Magazine* (UK), *The Guardian* of UK and *The Standard*, one of the two leading daily newspapers papers in Kenya,

November 2008-June 2009: Was one of the blog authors for the 6th World Conference of Science Journalists [WCSJ] in London, 30 June – 2 July 2009

CONSULTANCIES:

06 September-October 07, 2016: Contributed an article focusing on development cooperation, especially on research for development to *Horizon*, the Swiss National Science Foundation: *The quest for fair research*.

September 19-20, 2016: Consulted for Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, Droevendaalsesteeg, 1, 6708 PB Wageningen, centre within the legal entity Stichting Wageningen Research, a foundation incorporated under the laws of The Netherlands

Jan 23-27, 2013: Was invited by the World Federation of Science Journalists to train a group of journalists drawn from various African countries on “What stories are editors looking for?”

2012: A member of the Advisory Board of a German hosted international scientific conference, *Falling Walls*.

26–28 November 2012: Trained journalists during the First West Africa Science Journalists Conference (WASJC), held in Benin's economic hub, Cotonou.

19-20 September 2012: Resource person at the *Making STI Information More Accessible for Africa's Development* science journalists training workshop in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia

June 20-July 6, 2011: Consulted for International Development Research Center of Canada on Climate Change Adaptation in Africa: Research and writing a profile on Project CCAA project entitled, *Managing Risks, Reducing Vulnerability and Enhancing Agricultural Productivity Under Climate Change: Greater Horn of Africa.*”

June 21-24, 2010: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa: Science with Africa II conference daily news bulletin production.

June 27-Sept 13, 2009: Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on Journalistic evaluation of the eucalyptus plant in East Africa.

November 1, 2008-February 1, 2009: World Agroforestry Center on publicity on their works within Kenya.

March-Nov 2008: Consulted for the Netherlands based Elsevier; publisher of peer-reviewed scientific journals on the impact of free access to HINARI, OARE and AGORA journals in Eastern Africa starting March-November 2008.

October 2008: Consulted for the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, ensuring coverage for the meeting and being the chief blog author.

February 16-20, 2008: Trained Mozambican science journalists at the invitation of Ministry of Science and Technology

Course areas

- Popularizing science
- Creating space for Science journalism

Key Competencies

- Experienced investigative journalist both with the local and international media
- Established ability in newsgathering, writing and editing to very tight deadlines

- An in-depth understanding of the operations of the local and international media
- Strong research and analytical skills; proven ability to analyse and integrate diverse information from various sources including analysing, commenting and editorialising on topical issues
- Ability to manage and coordinate the sourcing and coverage of news and events
- Track, research and analyze information on assigned topics
- Produce a variety of written communications in a clear and concise style
- Skills to develop clear goals that are consistent with agreed information dissemination strategies; identify priorities, allocate time and resources appropriately
- Proficient in computer skills and use of relevant software and other applications

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In all his years as a journalist, **Ochieng' Ogodo** has attended and covered many events in different parts of the world, thus gaining more valuable skills in his career as a journalist. Some of these are:

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| April 18-20, 2017: | Attended the WHO's 2nd global partners' meeting on neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) in Geneva |
| December 12-13, 2016: | 1st Regional Forum on Strengthening Health Systems for the SDGs and UHC in Namibia |
| October 11-14, 2016: | AFR100 Regional Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia |
| October 7, 2016: | Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Precisions Public Health in Africa Roundtable, Sheraton, Addis Ababa |
| Sept 18-23, 2016: | Attended the 4th Heidelberg Laureate Forum at Heidelberg, Germany. The Heidelberg Laureate Forum brings together top mathematics and computer scientists to network and share experiences with the future generation |
| July 4-5, 2016: | Attended Communication event for the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience in Africa Policymakers Booklet at Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene' Cybercity, Mauritius. |
| June 8-12, 2015 | Delegate to the World Congress of Science Journalists in Seoul, Korea. Panelist on " <i>Reporting GM Crops in Africa and Asia.</i> " |
| March 16, 2016: | Attended Launch of Global Panel Policy Brief: <i>Managing Food Price Volatility: Policy Options to Support Healthy Diets and Nutrition in The Context of Uncertainty</i> at the House of Commons in London. |
| March 5-6, 2015 | Attended Final Stakeholders Workshop on Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture in the Greater |

Horn of Africa (ECAW) IDRC Grant Number 106552-001
at Nashera Hotel, Morogoro, Tanzania.

- September 1- 4, 2014** Africa Green Revolution Forum, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- October 14-17, 2014** Was at the Second Ministerial Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation in Africa, Rabat, Morocco
- June 26-26, 2011:** Attended the World Conference of Science Journalist in Doha, Qatar. Made a plenary presentation on Science & Science Journalism: A Force for Positive Change in Africa
- June 9-14, 2011** Was at the Canadian Science Writers Association annual conference at Calgary University, Calgary
- Feb 7-12, 2011** *“Leveraging Agriculture for Improving Nutrition and Health”* international conference in New Delhi, India. Covered it through news reporting and blogging for *Scidev.Net*
- November 22-26, 2010** Associate Editor for the Third Africa Water Week magazine *AWW Daily* in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- November 17-18, 2010** Guest speaker for a media workshop on “Climate change and agriculture” at the University of Hohenheim, Germany.
- October 10-15, 2010** Was in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the Seventh African Development Forum (ADF VII). Theme: *Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa*. Helped produce daily conference magazine, *ADF Daily*.
- June 23-25, 2010:** Covered Second Science with Africa Conference in Addis Ababa
- 20-23 June 2010** Attended the UNW-DPAC Workshop Deutsche Welle Media Forum: Water and Climate Change
- March 22-23, 2010** Attended the European Journalism Center launch of the TH!NK ABOUT IT: Developing World. The third European Blogging Campaign
- November 02-06, 2009** Attended and covered CCAA Integrated Climate Risk Assessment Training Workshop at Windsor Golf and Country Club in Nairobi.
- September 11, 2009** Attended and covered Official Launch of Biotechnology and Biosafety Degree Course at Kenya’s Moi University Chepkoilel Campus.

- Oct. 5-10, 2008** Attended the International Union of Conservation of Nature [IUCN] World Conservation Congress in Barcelona, Spain.
- May 25-29, 2008:** Attended Medai21 Training Workshop on Access to Health Care in Geneva. The event was run on the sidelines of the Geneva Health Forum with similar theme.
- April 7– 9 2008:** Covered Advancing Agriculture in Developing Countries through Knowledge and Innovation. A Forum to Bring Together Researchers, Practitioners, and Policymakers at the Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- February 16-20, 2008:** Trained Mozambican science journalists at the invitation of Ministry of Science and Technology
- Course areas**
- Popularizing science
 - Science journalism
- January 30, 2008** Participant at Internews workshop for journalists on *Unpacking Kenya: 30 Days in words and pictures...Media responses in Kenya during election crisis*. Awarded certificate of participation
- January 7-9, 2008:** Attended workshop for journalists: *“Biotechnology for Sustainability”*
- Venue: Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands
- January 10-11, 2008:** Attended International Workshop for Journalists: *“Water and Sanitation for All”*
- Venue Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands.
- November 15-16, 2007:** Covered the African Ministerial Council of Science and Technology Conference [AMCOST]
- Venue Mombasa, Kenya.
- October 13-16, 2007** Was commissioned by the UK based Science and Development Network to cover the Pre-Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting Science Symposium in Mbarara, Uganda.
- June 29-30** Attended Regional Workshop on the Role of Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology and Pairing Scheme between Parliamentarians and Scientists in East Africa in Nairobi
- Was awarded certificate of attendance
- April 16-20, 2007:** Delegate to the World Congress of Science Journalists in Melbourne, Australia. Presented a paper at the plenary on *Reporting Climate Change: The Developing World Perspective*

- March 26 to April 4, 2007:** Assisted Austria Broadcasting Corporation crew to film flower farming around Lake Naivasha, the epicenter of horticultural crops growing in Kenya. We also did another filming of the sprawling Kibera slums in Nairobi.
- January 20-25, 2007:** Attended the World Social Forum, Nairobi.
- October 14-21, 2005,** Traveled to the US on the invitation of the US Grains Council for the Biotechnology harvest media tour that brought journalists from different parts of the world on a study tour of the tenth harvest of biotech crops in the US.
- June 25-31, 2005:** Attended the Land Ocean Interaction in the Coastal Zones Open science meeting in Egmond aan Zee, Netherlands. Presented a paper on *The Media and Environmental Protection*
Was awarded certificate of attendance
- April 10-15, 2005:** Was in Mogadishu, Somalia on assignment on the more than a decade old civil war and the quest for peace in this Islam dominated state.

PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

- June 15-Dec 18, 2009:** Capacitating of Journalists Covering the Climate Summit in Copenhagen. Was awarded Diploma in Climate Change Reporting by Danida Fellowship Center.
- June 2007:** United Nations Environmental Programme [UNEP] Training on Online Access to Research in the Environment
- Jan. 29-Feb. 2, 2007:** The Commonwealth Press Union (CPU) Environmental Reporting Training Course held in Nairobi. News gathering, writing and editing. Feature story writing and investigations.
- December 4-8, 2006:** Reuters Foundation training on environmental news writing in Nairobi (Training in Africa for the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment).
- September 15-16, 1998:** Attended a training workshop on Contemporary Issues in Basic, Adult and Non-Formal Education organized by Kenya Education Journalists Association [Kenya] in Nairobi.
- July 1997:** Underwent internal training programme on *English for Journalists* conducted by the UK based Hiley Editorial

Services, and was awarded a certificate.

December 13, 1996

Certificate of Merit awarded to Ochieng' Ogodu for Proficiency in Fighting Against Drug Abuse by Drug Abuse Education Programme International.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sept 1, 2007-June 16, 2008

Senior Staff Writer for *Doctors News East Africa* [Kenya], a premier bimonthly full colour magazine covering doctors' professional activities, sector news, lifestyles, travel and also giving them [doctors] opportunity to air their views in easy to read language

October 1, 2003- November 1, 2007

Senior writer for *Biosafety News* [a Nairobi based Biotechnology, Health and Agriculture Magazine]

June 1996-October 1, 2003

Journalist with the *East African Standard* group, one of the two leading media houses in Kenya.

Duties:

1996:

Reporting for sports Desk: Covered football, motor sports, professional boxing, hockey among other sporting disciplines

1997:

Switched to News Desk which entailed rigorous reporting of hard news stories including news breaking based on assignments and personal initiatives.

September 1999-October 2003:

- Moved to the Investigative Desk where, among, others I was a senior writer to the widely read investigative pullout, *The Big Issue*.
- Comprehensively and expansively wrote on human interest issues, personality profiles.
- Did commentaries and analysis on major topical issues,
- Special Projects.
- Covered scientific issues

FELLOWSHIPS

June 14-Dec 20, 2009

Danida Fellowship Center fellow on Climate Change Reporting in Copenhagen, Denmark

November 06-17, 2006:

Panos London Fellowship to United Nations Framework on Convention on Climate Change in Nairobi.

► This entailed production of editorial materials from plenary sessions, interviews, press releases, reports, studies and field trips for publication.

March 14-25, 2006:

Won Panos London Fellowship to cover the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in Curitiba, Brazil.

► This entailed production of editorial materials from plenary sessions, interviews, press releases, reports, studies and field trips for publication.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Higher Education:

Currently: Pursuing Master of Arts in Journalism and Communication Studies at the University of Nairobi, Kenya. I have successfully finished course work and now writing the Thesis.

Bachelor of Science in Communication and Journalism - Moi University, Kenya

Diploma in Communication and Public Relations - Moi University, Kenya

Diploma in Climate Change Reporting - Danida Fellowship Center, Copenhagen, Denmark

High School

Advance Level: Ambira High School,

Ordinary Level: Oriwo Secondary School.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Excellent team work, Strong interpersonal skills/leadership,
- Excellent communication/presentation abilities (written and spoken)
- Wide experience in reporting news and dealing with sources
- Ability to adapt to different corporate situations and environment
- Strong problem-solving ability

PARTICIPATION AND MEMBERSHIP

- Current:**
- Patron of the Kenya Environment and Science Journalists Association [KENSJA].
 - East African Network of Science Journalists
 - Member of the Geneva based Media21 Global Journalism Network

Former member of the advisory board to the German-based International Science Meeting, *Falling Walls*

- Alumni:**
- ▶ Thomson Reuters Foundation
Commonwealth Press Union.
 - ▶ While at Ambira for 'A" level education, I was a member of Form Six
Football team & debating and drama clubs.

REFEREES:

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