



## Message From the Director - Prof. Charles Owuor Olunga

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The Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies (formerly Institute of African Studies), situated inside the National Museums of Kenya compound, is one of the oldest Institutes within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. It started as a cultural division of the Institute for Development Studies in 1967. In 1970 the Institute became full fledged and moved to its current location inside the National Museums of Kenya compound. In addition, the Institute is the custodian of the historic Chiromo Mansion (which was declared a National Monument under the Antiquities and Monuments Act – Gazette Notice No. 1427 of 9th March 2001), where it houses its material culture section.

Since its inception, the Institute has expanded its academic programmes. Currently the following programmes are offered:

- Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology
- Bachelor of Arts in Gender and Development
- Postgraduate Diploma in Gender and Development
- Postgraduate Diploma in Care and Management of Heritage and Museum Collections
- Postgraduate Diploma in Cultural Studies
- Master of Arts Degree in Anthropology
- Master of Arts Degree in Gender and Development
- PhD programme.

#### **Milestones**

1983 Bachelor of arts in Anthropology Programme launched

1986 Master of Arts in Anthropology programme Launched

1986 Doctor of Philosophy programme Launched

2001 Bachelor of Arts in Gender and Development Studies launched

2001 Master of Arts in Gender and Development Studies launched

We are currently working on our latest programme which will receive initial support from the World Health Organization.

Faculty at the Institute are involved in various exciting research projects. Over the years we have been involved in research on documenting socio-cultural issues of Kenyan communities resulting in the "District Socio-Cultural Profile Publications." Other projects in which the Institute and faculty have been actively involved in include:



The Kenya Danish Health Research Project (1993 to 2003) with financial support from DANIDA and involving [DBL - Institute for Health Research and Development](#) [8] as its principle partner.

- Reproductive Health of Needs of Men with financial support from USAID through Population Council.
- Governance Project with financial support from UNDP.
- Research Capacity Strengthening (RCSPlus) with financial support from World Health Organization.
- Cystercercosis in Eastern and Southern Africa (CESA) Project with financial support from DANIDA.
- REACT Project (2005 - 2010) with financial support from the European Union.

A full summary of the current projects and programmes at the Institute is given below.

No.	Project title	Source of Funds	Principal Investigator	Brief Description of Project
1	Nyangoma Research Training Site	DBL-Institute for Health Research and Development, Denmark	IAS	The Nyang'oma site has been used for more than 20 years as a research training site for both Masters and PhD students. The collaboration between the Institute and its partner, the DBL-Institute for Health Research and Development is on-going.
2	Research Capacity Strengthening	World Health Organization - TDR	Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo	This project is funded by the World Health Organization through the Research Capability Strengthening Programme. The aim is to enhance social science capacity in the medical profession.
3	ReACT Project	European Union	IAS (Principal persons in the project are: Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo, Dr. W. Onyango-Ouma)	The 5-year project aims to contribute to our understanding of health care systems using new approaches (Approaches for Reasonableness). It is a multi-country project involving different institutions. Collaborating partners include the Institute for Health Research and Development, KEMRI, IDS-University of Dar es Salaam, Medical Research Center-Tanzania, Dept. of Community Health, Zambia, University of Bergen.
4	IUCEA Project	SAREC - IUCEA	Dr. Wilfred Keraka Subbo	This is a multi-country project involving Kenya and Tanzania with. The project focuses on the role of women in managing the environment. Overall management of the project has been given to Dr. Subbo at the Institute.
5	OSSREA Project	OSSREA, Addis Ababa	Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo	The focus of this study is to establish the social and economic impact of TB on household against the backdrop of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.



in Nyanza.

6	Gender Lecture Series	UNIFEM	IAS. The principal persons Dr. W. Onyango-Ouma, Dr. C. O. Olungah, Ms. S. Bukachi, D. Shilabuka & J. Siso	The purpose of this grant is to enable the Institute to conduct a series of lectures on Gender and governance at the University of Nairobi. The aim is to give prominence to gender issues at the University of Nairobi.
7	CESA Project	DANIDA	IAS. The principal contact person is Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo	Cross-Cultural Risk Assessment of Taenia solium Cysticercosis in Eastern and Southern Africa (CESA) is funded by DANIDA. The 3 year project aims to increase knowledge and awareness of Cysticercosis as an important evidence-base for making appropriate relevant policies concerning sustainable pork production in the region. Field work will be done in partner countries—Tanzania & Mozambique—in collaboration with universities in Kenya, Zambia and South Africa. The Institute is providing graduate training for students on the project from the region.
8	Governance Project	UNDP	Prof. Collette Suda	The project investigates the role of traditional structures in conflict resolution. The project contributes to the understanding of persistent conflicts in the region.

These projects have resulted in numerous publications in peer refereed academic journals. Within the Institute, we publish Mila as a vehicle for communicating with peers. For more details about the Mila Journal please visit our website.

We have established active collaboration and links with various institutions to enhance our own research and training. We have current active links with The Danish Bilharziasis Laboratories - Institute for Health Research and Development, Denmark; University of Kyoto; The African Studies Consortium (Byrn Mawr, Haverford, Swathmore and University of Pennsylvania).

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies.

Directors of the Institute since inception

- 1970 - 1975 [Prof. Bethuel Ogot](#) [9]
- 1975 - 1978 [Mr. George Mathu](#) [10]
- 1978 - 1983 Dr. Benjamin Kipkorir
- 1983 - 1986 [Dr. Chris Wanjala](#) [11]
- 1986 - 1991 Prof. Gideon S. Were
- 1991 - 1999 [Prof. Simiyu Wandibba](#) [12]
- 1999 - 2002 Prof. Collette Suda



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2002 – 2014 [Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo](#) [13]  
2014 (3rd march) - present [Prof. Charles Owuor Olungah](#) [14]

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