

Joy Bongyereire – Uganda

- 1. How useful have the knowledge, skills, concepts and principles learned during your graduate studies have been to your work so far? (VERY USEFUL)**

Whatever we are doing in this course is closely related to the work I do in the field in SW Uganda. All the professors, especially Dan Wessner, Henry Perry, Daniel Taylor, Pierre-Marie have all been helpful in helping me improve my English (written), write better reports, improve research skills and acquire skills in various subjects.

- 2. What is your community? Please describe how your community is benefitting from your involvement in this Master's Degree program.**

My community includes smallholder farmers and indigenous pygmies of SW Uganda (Kisoro District). So far, myself and colleagues are applying SEED-SCALE in the work we do (training communities). We never knew anything about scale up plan. We are now able to do that to improve on service delivery in the communities. We have registered a Community-Based Organization specifically to benefit Kisoro communities through SEED-SCALE.

- 3. Please describe your current activities to support community change and conservation and how the Master's Degree program influences this work.**

Mobilizing communities to participate in Africa 2000 Network activities, and building their capacity in various aspects. Spearheading collaborative forest management in partnership with the Uganda National Forestry Authority. Supporting the marginalized pygmies through a beekeeping project financed by the UNDP Small Grants Program. The skills obtained from this MA are applied in my daily work.

- 4. Please list other organizations (i.e. NGO's, associations) with which you have some kind of link. Describe your relationship with them.**

The Inter-University for East Africa (IUCEA). I am one of the L. Victoria Researchers, coordinated by the IUCEA.

Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) – capacity building courses.

Kisoro District NGO Forum and the National NGO Forum.

Uganda National Farmers Federation – partners in Development.

African Women in Africa Research

Native Uganda – I am a member

Africa 2000 Network – Uganda Staff Saving Scheme – I am a member.

Uplift the Rural Poor Organization – we are partners in development in the Kisoro District

National Agricultural Research Organization – we are development partners

Kisoro Beekeepers Association – Development Partners

Rezaul Karim – Bangladesh

- 1. How useful have the knowledge, skills, concepts and principles learned during your graduate studies have been to your work so far? (VERY USEFUL)**

The graduate studies have given me lots of insights and confidence in doing my job effectively. It has enhanced my competencies to understand the concepts and principles regarding community change.

- 2. What is your community? Please describe how your community is benefitting from your involvement in this Master's Degree program.**

I do work in a community-based intervention to bring about changes in people's behavior. This intervention has been designed to stimulate bottom-up planning through enhancing the participation and collaboration. These communities are benefiting from me through conceptual perspectives and dimensions that I gained from this course.

- 3. Please describe your current activities to support community change and conservation and how the Master's Degree program influences this work.**

I have been managing a community-based program in a division as a field operation manager. We have created a community network to stimulate and enhance social changes. It involves community capacity development, enhances participation, balancing gender and ensuring equity. I am contributing to enhance this process.

- 4. Please list other organizations (i.e. NGO's, associations) with which you have some kind of link. Describe your relationship with them.**

I have functional links with different organizations working in Bangladesh, which are: NGO Forum for Drinking Water and Sanitation (apex body); WaterAid Bangladesh, TREE, NGO Network for ICT and Community Radio, BCCP, and some other local and regional NGOs. I do share experiences and exchange program implementation with other organizations periodically/occasionally.

Kristen Baskin – United States

1. How useful have the knowledge, skills, concepts and principles learned during your graduate studies have been to your work so far? (VERY USEFUL)

Every day I am able to iterate methods of helping people and with every mistake I make, I am able to put the mistake back through the seed-scale process and learn for next time.

2. What is your community? Please describe how your community is benefitting from your involvement in this Master's Degree program.

My community is a government-subsidized housing community with whom I tend a garden, help run a kids garden club, encourage leadership, suggest nonviolent ways for kids to deal with conflict, empower kids who might grow up thinking their only choice is acceptance of fate.

3. Please describe your current activities to support community change and conservation and how the Master's Degree program influences this work.

- a. working at 2 food co-ops to understand consensus-based decision-making, local food production and the benefits of working as a team united towards a common goal.
- b. playing on Frisbee team to meet many types of people and become integrated into different types of lives and study peacebuilding through sports.
- c. Working at the garden and encouraging success, kids' independence through food making and encouraging the NGO to let go and allow the community to have more control.

4. Please list other organizations (i.e. NGO's, associations) with which you have some kind of link. Describe your relationship with them.

Circle of Hope (attendee)

Weaver's Way Coop (worker)

Mariposa Coop (member)

Wooden Shoe (staff)

Sustainable Business Network (member)

Philadelphia Area Disc Alliance (player)

Urban Tree Connection (volunteer)

Cross-Cultural Solutions (previous volunteer)

Menlo Park Presbyterian Church (attendee)

Eco Magic (previous resident)

Food Entrepreneurs Network (on listserve)

Mercy Corps

Atul Tayeng - India

- 1. How useful have the knowledge, skills, concepts and principles learned during your graduate studies have been to your work so far? (VERY USEFUL)**

The knowledge, skills, concepts and principles learned in this graduate studies program has so far given useful information for my work as well as for personal development. The diverse and blended learning has so far influenced me in some way or other in doing my official work.

- 2. What is your community? Please describe how your community is benefitting from your involvement in this Master's Degree program.**

Basically, I am working with the community of Upper Diang district. As for the community benefit, I cannot say that I am applying and sharing and learning with the community to which they are receptive and interested.

- 3. Please describe your current activities to support community change and conservation and how the Master's Degree program influences this work.**

My work is with the rural people of the district. As all poverty alleviation schemes and as part of a community change and conservation effort, this masters program has been a good influence to my work.

- 4. Please list other organizations (i.e. NGO's, associations) with which you have some kind of link. Describe your relationship with them.**