



São Paulo School of Advanced Science on Scenarios and Modelling on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to Support Human Well-Being

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Yvonne is currently a PhD student at the Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation at the University of Nairobi where her research focuses on participatory modelling of the impacts of changes in land use and climate on ecosystem services in Yala Wetland, Western Kenya. She holds an M.Sc. degree in Conservation Biology from the University of Cape Town, and a B.Sc. degree in Biodiversity and Conservation Biology from the University of the Western Cape in South Africa.

Yvonne also works as a project assistant in the Development Corridors Partnership (DCP) project, a GCRF-funded and UNEP-WCMC led project which seeks to help East African countries to design and plan for sustainable and resilient infrastructure. Yvonne has several years' experience in environment, climate change and policy research as well as programme administration.

Yvonne's main research interests are in climate change and ecosystem services, in the use of particular participatory methods to ensure that the voices of local communities can be incorporated into decision-making. She also has a keen interest in how scientific information can be used to inform development planning and processes at various levels. Through her PhD research for example, she hopes to incorporate local knowledge of ecosystem service flow and work with the community to develop participatory scenarios of impacts of changes in land use and climate on ecosystem services flow in her study area. She hopes that the results of the study will feed into ongoing efforts to sustainably manage the wetland including the land use plan (LUP) for Yala wetland.