



Eric M Mugambi (Kenyan)

Host organization: MMWCA

Fellow position: Finance & Grants Fellow

Fellowship duration: June 2022 – June 2023

Degree: BBS Financial Economics

Professional experience: 6+ years



Summary

Eric joined MMWCA to help the team in managing all financial activities, ensuring resources are utilised effectively and efficiently, and also supporting the management of MMWCA portfolio of grants while building and maintaining relationships with funders and grantees.

The problem MMWCA aims to tackle

- To protect the Greater Mara Ecosystem, harmonizing a peaceful human - wildlife coexistence, create resilient livelihoods through income from ecotourism land leases, carbon and proper livestock management.

The solution MMWCA provides...

- Fundraising for conservancies Opex e.g. during the COVID pandemic where tourism was largely affected.
- MMWCA is currently supporting the development of a carbon credits project to provide an alternative revenue stream to the community.

... contributing to the SDGs:



Opportunity for a Fellow

- Provision of Internal Audit services that will ensure an effective operational environment for MMWCA and also track improvements plans and recommendations from external audits and assessments.
- Project financial management expert to provide trainings and offer mentorship to the team.
- Carbon finance; as the One Mara Carbon Project is being developed.

“My experience as a Fellow...

... MMWCA's efforts have a direct impact on the community they serve, as well as on a larger scale, the nation and the world, through their conservation and biodiversity protection work. It has been a privilege for me to contribute to MMWCA's incredible initiatives by assisting in financial management and grant support, bridging crucial gaps.”

- Eric M Mugambi



Eric’s achievements...

- Participated in a concept development exercise and drafting a budget for the concept that progressed to Co-Creation, Proposal development and MMWCA successfully got awarded a GDA grant.
- I supported the team through 3 external audits and preparations for board meetings.
- Review and revision of finance and HR policies.
- Represented the finance & grants department in 3 QRM for a consortium project being implemented by 5 partners in 5 counties.
- 1 Successful project closeout reporting.

... contributing to MMWCA

- \$6.5m** Funds raised through one new grant.
- 5+** Finance workshops held; including finance policy review, revision and adoption.
- 3** Unqualified organizational & project audit reports.

Eric’s next challenge

Eric is working with Basecamp Explorer Foundation - Kenya, one of the main funders of projects in the Mara landscape, working towards safeguarding nature and wildlife ecosystems in East Africa and promoting sustainable tourism.